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NATIONAL COLLEGE

# Football

EDITION

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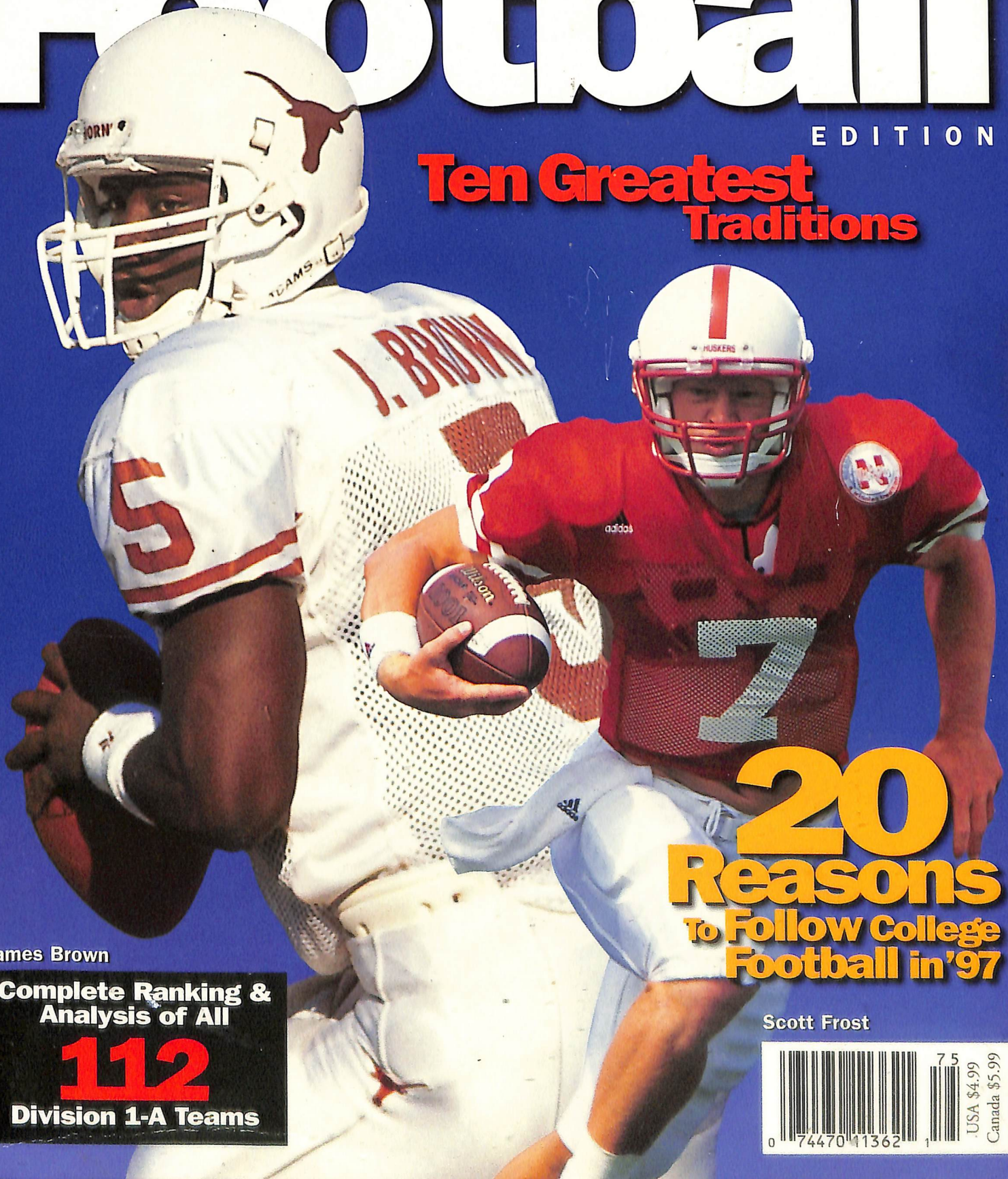


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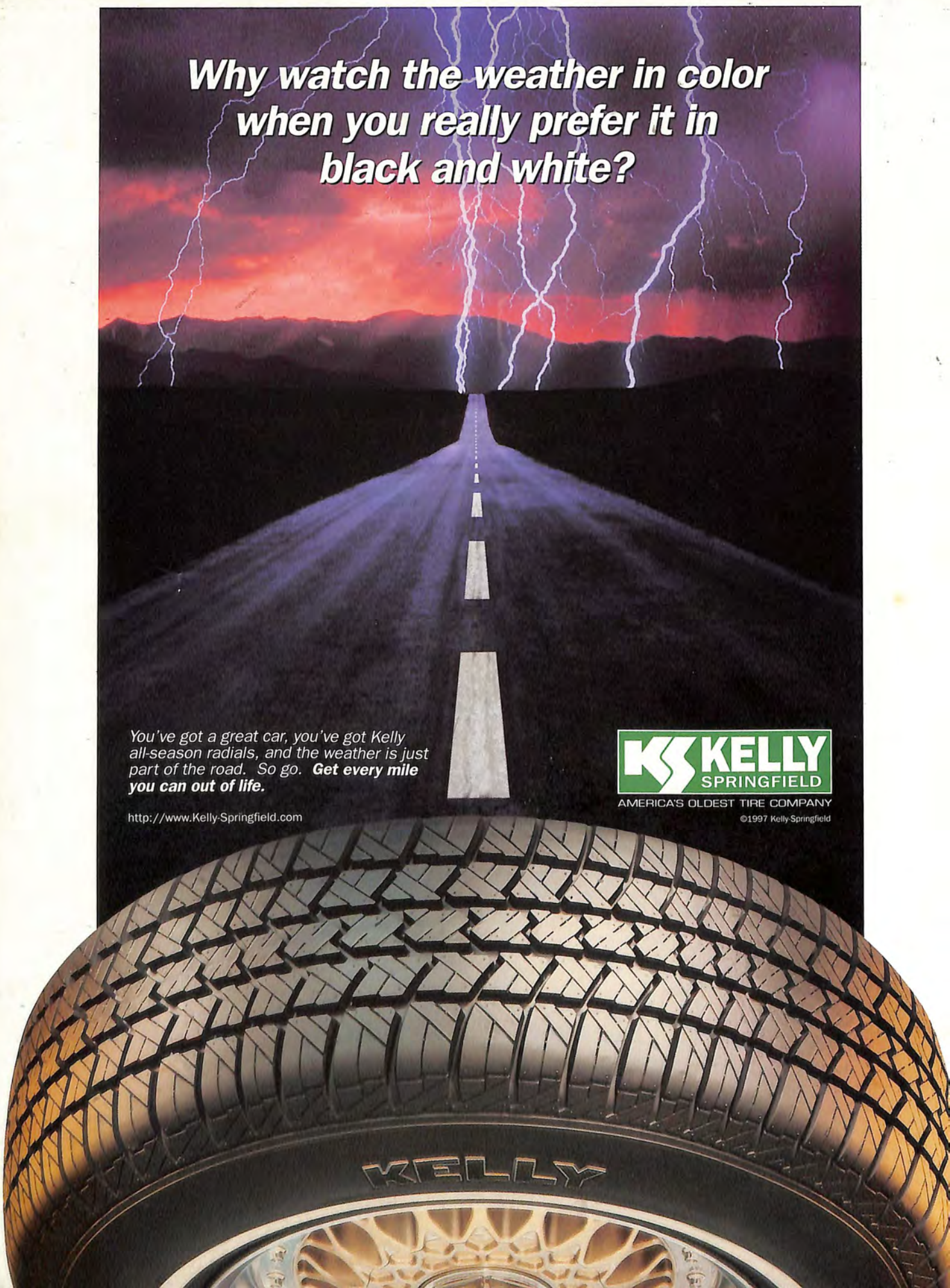
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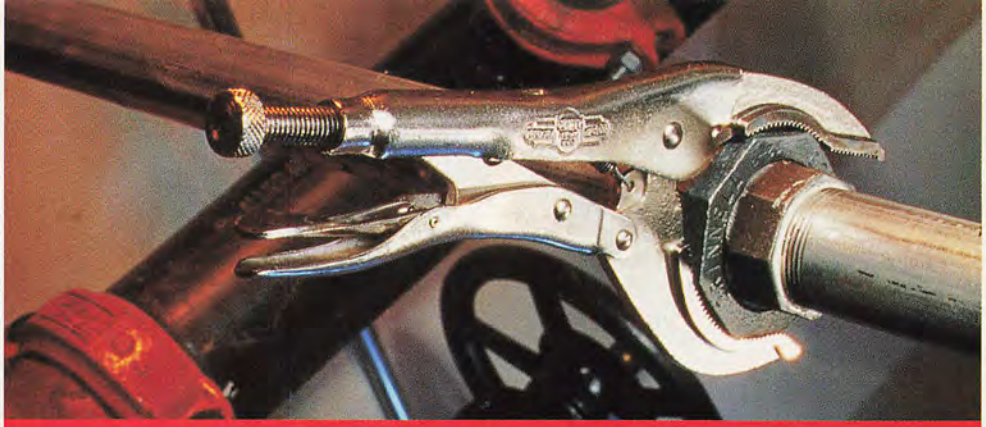

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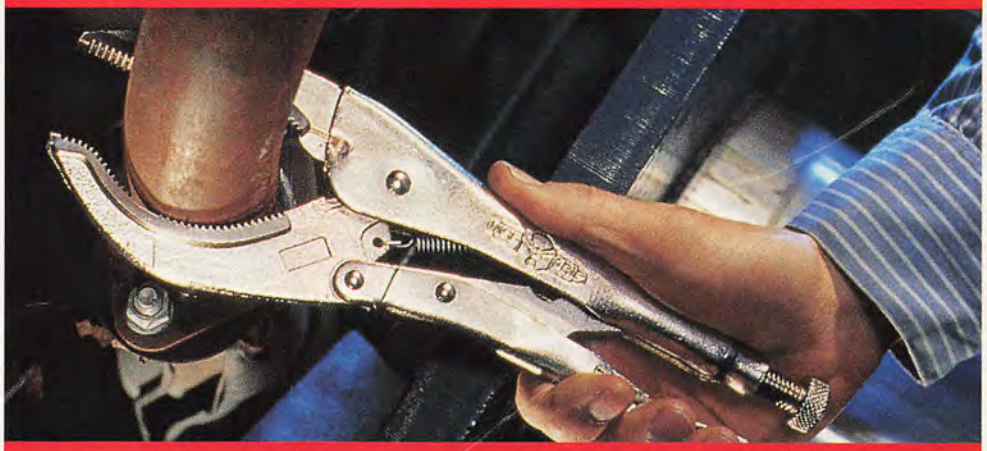

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# editor's letter

*"We are . . . Marshall!"*
*"Let's go Herd!"*

The deafening chants, the sea of green and white, the stamping bison mascot. Not to mention the spectacle on the field, featuring the record-breaking antics of one of college football's premier players, wide receiver Randy Moss.

It is with great excitement that I welcome the Marshall Thundering Herd to Division I-A football. After years of domination in I-AA, Marshall is making the leap, bringing the total number of I-A teams from 111 to 112.

The Herd is coming off a 15–0 season, the best ever in college football, as well as a Southern Conference title and Division I-AA national championship. Marshall won its four playoff games by an average of 34 points.

In 1997, Marshall leaves I-AA behind to rejoin the Mid-American Conference. There will be no more battles for the national championship with archrival Youngstown State. Now there will be conference battles with MAC foes Akron, Ohio and Kent. Marshall will face only one non-Division I-A opponent this season (Western Illinois), and starts the season with three straight road games. The entire state will be watching the season opener at West Virginia on August 30, because the Mountaineers and the Herd haven't met since 1923.

And why am I so interested in Huntington, West Virginia's pride and joy? Well, Marshall boasts an impressive alumni club: Mom, Dad, Uncle Mike, Aunt Susie, Aunt Anita, cousin Rachel . . . the list goes on and on. I attended only one game at my own alma mater, Western Kentucky, which nearly lost its struggling football program during my four years. Marshall Stadium, on the other hand, became a yearly homecoming and championship game ritual for me.

On Dec. 19, 1992, I was in the stands for one of my most exhilarating sports moments ever, the battle for the national title between Marshall and Youngstown State.

Marshall went up 28–0 late in the third quarter before a Penguin rally tied the game with 3:28 left. Marshall drove furiously downfield, going 76 yards in 14 plays, but failed to score a touchdown. After a final Marshall timeout, the field goal crew jogged onto the field for a 22-yard attempt. However, the regular placekicker, David Merrick, was on the bench as a punishment for missing practice. On the field instead was his brother Willy, the punter, who had never kicked a field goal in his life.

With 10 seconds left, center Pete Woods snapped the ball to holder Andy Bowen, and Merrick drove the ball squarely through the uprights for the win. A title-game-record crowd of 31,304 stormed the field and brought down those blessed uprights.

Welcome to the show, Marshall. We're glad to have you.

This year's *Athlon Sports National College Football* magazine not only features the Thundering Herd. Beginning on page 40, you'll find a preseason analysis for each of the 112 Division I-A teams, including a depth chart. Once again, we've ranked them all in order from 1 to 112. You'll also find a list of conference predictions beginning on page 30.

Malcolm Moran of *The New York Times* gives us 20 great reasons to anticipate autumn on page 10 — as if we needed any help. I know I can already hear the crashing of helmets and the roar of the crowd.

Sally Jenkins, author of *Men Will Be Boys*, favors us with her top 10 college football traditions. Turn to page 24 to find out if yours is on the list. If not, let us know. This is a tradition we would like to continue.

As usual, we've provided you with in-depth recruiting information, stats, schedules and trivia. Don't miss the work of some of the nation's finest football photographers as they capture the spirit of the sidelines beginning on page 186.

More than ever, we want your feedback. Send us your predictions, your comments, your suggestions. What don't you like about this magazine? What do you love? Send your comments by e-mail to athlon@nashville.net, mail them to 220 25th Avenue North, Suite 200, Nashville, TN 37203, or fax them to (615) 327-1149.

One more thing . . . *LET'S GO HERD!*

Suzanne Feinstein

**The Marshall Thundering Herd finally hits the big time in 1997.**

Marilyn Testerman-Haye

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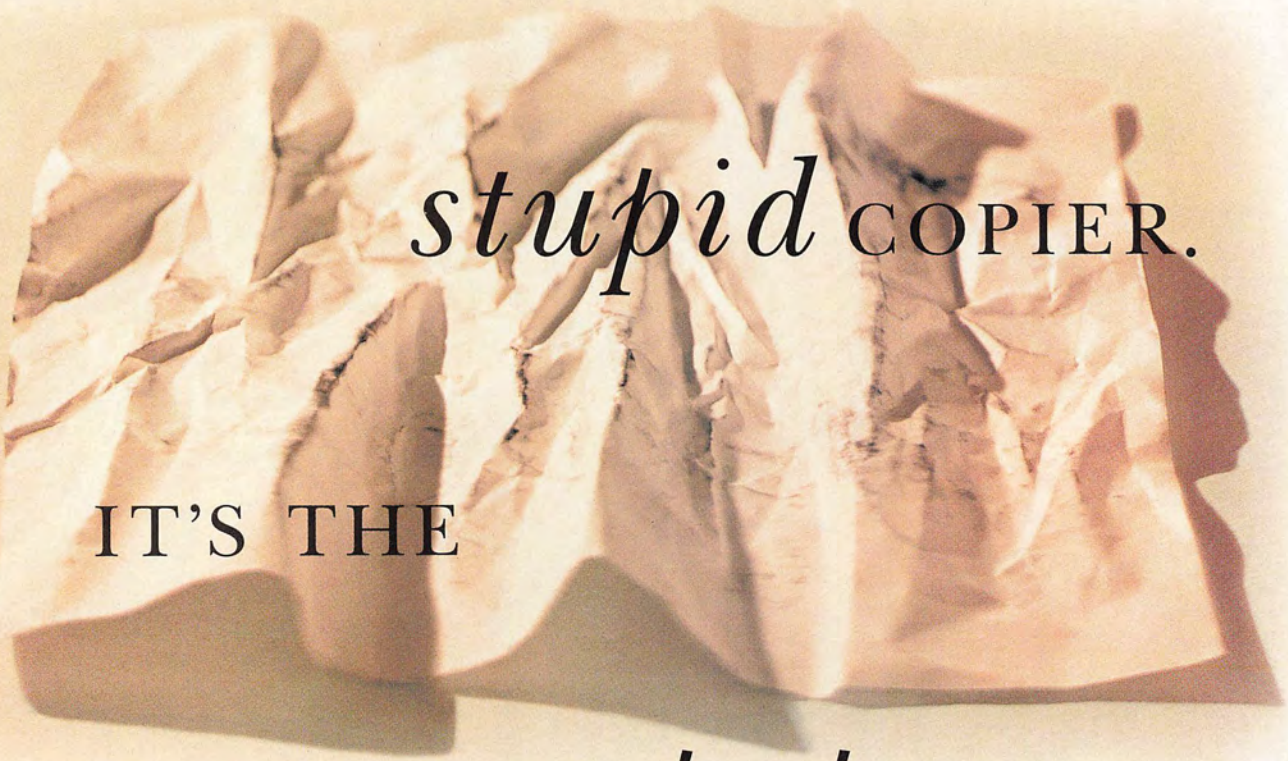

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# Football

## 10 20 Reasons to Follow College Football in 1997

From the power of Peyton to Eddie Robinson's last hurrah, we prepare you for what you need to know this season.

*by Malcolm Moran*

## 24 10 Greatest Traditions

A look at 10 of college football's most enduring and fascinating traditions.

*by Sally Jenkins*

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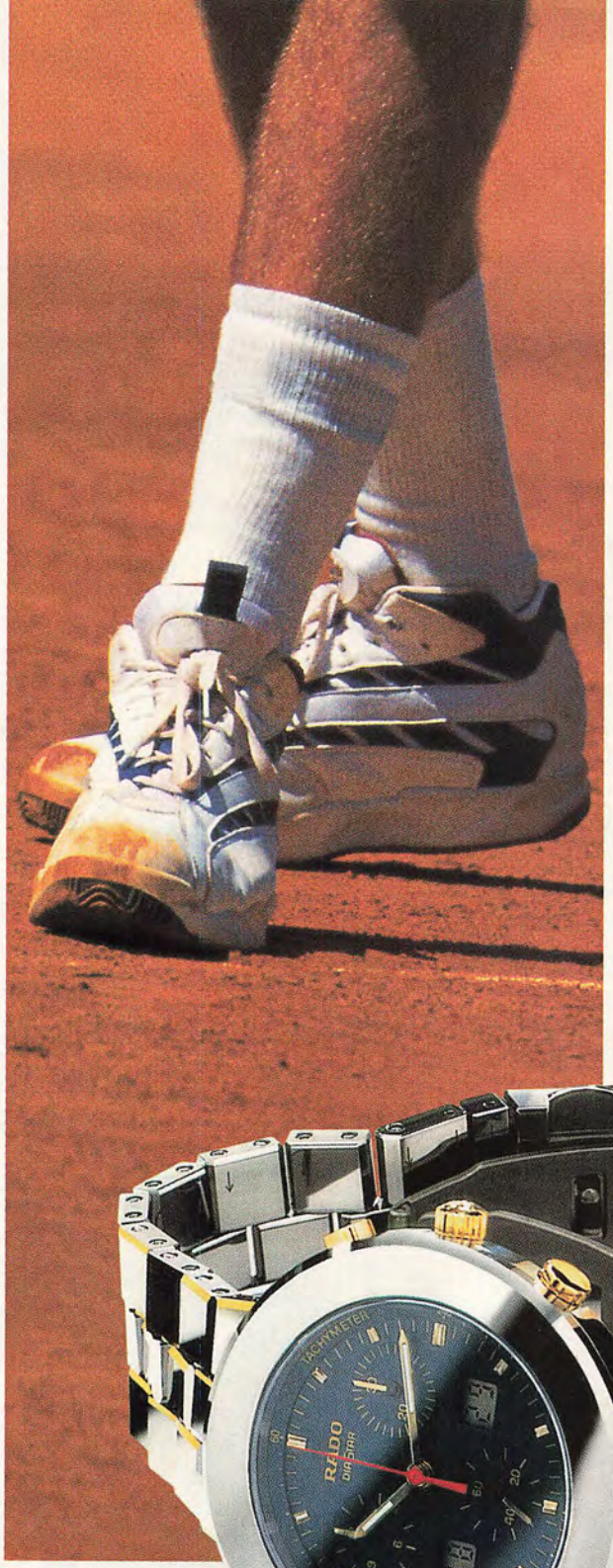

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***Cover Photographers:*** *Paul Jasienski (Daylon McCutcheon, Omarr Morgan); Dwight King (Peyton Manning); Andy Lyons/Allsport (Jacquez Green); Dick Milligan (Jason Chorak); Mike Moore (Dré Bly); Layne Murdoch (James Brown); Courtland Richards (Scott Frost, Freddie Kitchens); Joe Robbins (Andy Katzenmoyer); Bruce L. Schwartzmann (Curtis Enis, Charles Woodson); Steve Woltmann (Autry Denson, Ron Powlus)*

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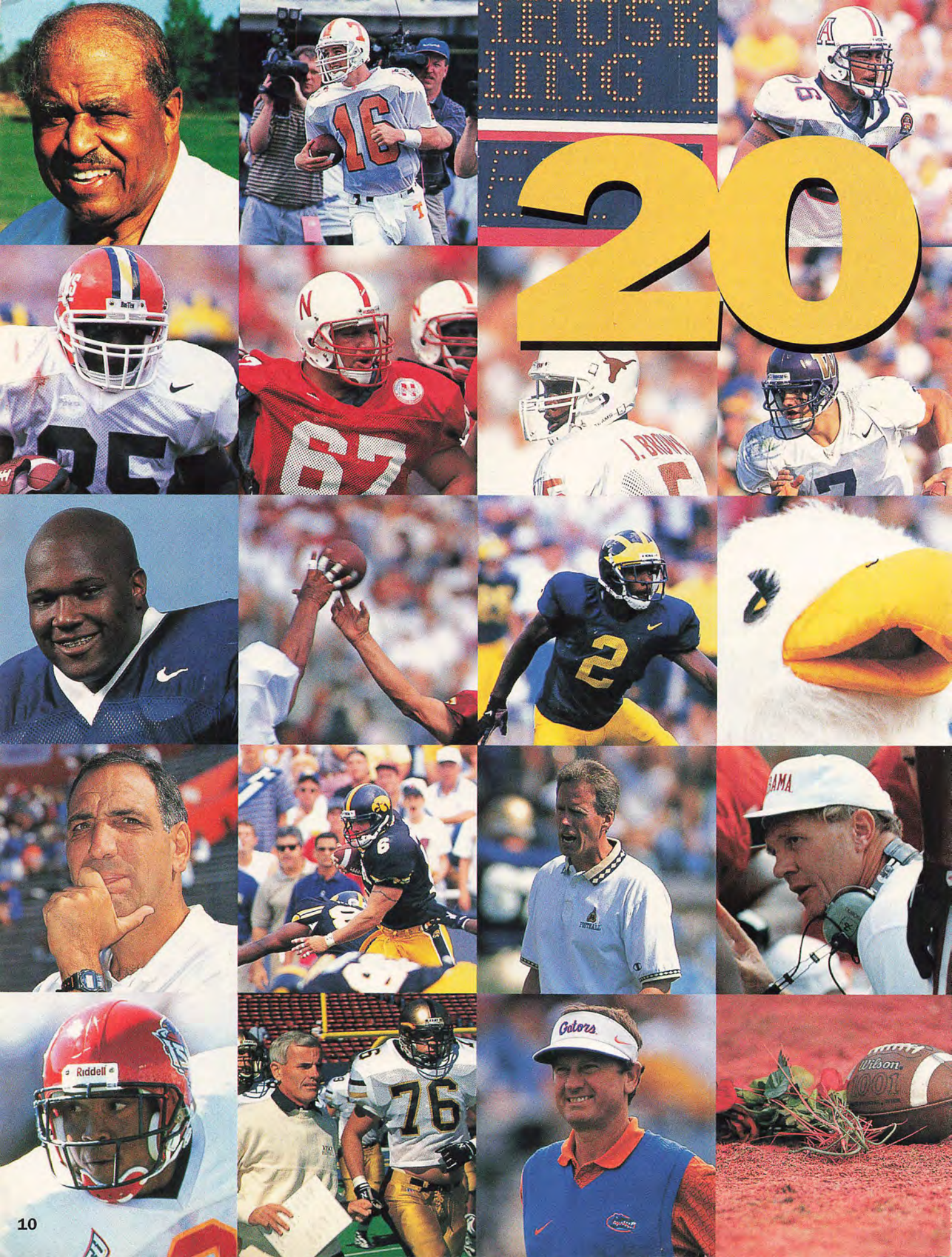
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Riddell
Colors
Wilson

*by* Malcolm Moran, *The New York Times*

# Reasons To Follow College Football in '97

We return to campus each fall in search of consistency. Not just the kind that produces a solid rushing game or a reliable defense; the consistency we seek is far more personal and lasting.

Much of the fun of the season is the anticipation of an annual return to the places where time moves a little more slowly, where the fight songs sound as bold as when you first watched the band march across the field, where you can count on the bonfires and the pep rallies to take shape just the way you remember them. Where you can take it all in and decide you're not really getting any older, the players are just getting younger.

All the while, you realize that the search for sameness is just one of the contradictions to be rediscovered each fall. Football's grace must be unleashed by power and its traditions are dependent upon constant change. When great players leave, highly recruited replacements must follow in their path.

The comings and goings have never seemed to take place so quickly as they do now. Coaches become older in a young man's game until they decide it's time to leave. Lou Holtz and Gene Stallings, championship coaches at elite-level programs, walked away from their jobs within hours last fall.

Players are offered the temptation of an early exit to the National Football League. As soon as a memorable team is built, we glance at the number beside the category STARTERS RETURNING and realize the familiar faces are gone and a re-assembly has begun.

So at a time when the pace of the world has intruded on campus, we embrace the departures that have been delayed and the traditions that have been renewed.

There is the curtain-call season of Grambling's Eddie Robinson and one last chance to see Peyton Manning in Tennessee orange. There is Ron Powlus of Notre Dame — did he succeed John Huarte at quarterback, or Johnny Lujack? — in his final season for a new head coach in a newly expanded and renovated stadium.

Two of the most passionate traditions in the game, the ones at Texas and Louisiana State, have come alive. Army, which returned to the national polls and revived memories of the place it once held in the sport, will play its final season as an independent.

The old traditions become richer when they are linked to the here and now. For decades, Louis Pedulla, a Notre Dame fan from the Bronx, has proudly used the word "we" when referring to the Fighting Irish despite never having visited South Bend. When he and his son finally reached the old, brick stadium, a work in progress by last fall, his journey was connected to a game that took place in another world.

"On November 11, 1944, I was a soldier boy home on a one-day last leave before my division was to sail for Europe," he wrote. "I spent that afternoon listening to the Notre Dame-Army game on the radio.

"How I suffered through that afternoon as Notre Dame was pounded by one of the most powerful Army teams of all time, 59–0 — the worst defeat in Notre Dame history! I carried the pain of that unbelievable loss through an 11-day ocean voyage and an endless journey by 'forty-and-eight' boxcar to a dugout in the heart of the Wehrmacht's Siegfried Line.

"The memory of a long, long afternoon comes back to me every time I hear or see any reference to that one-sided football game."

The strength of those memories is renewed each fall when we search for the familiar, only to discover a season that is new, and distinct, and memorable on its own.

## House in Order

More than any single person, this season — especially the start — will belong to Grambling's Robinson. There is great risk that comes with the final season he struggled to reach. Another losing season would be the third in a row, and just the eighth in the career of a coach who began in 1941. Robinson's Tigers have lost 14 of 22 games in the last two seasons, and worse, his program has been found guilty of a minor NCAA violation and more serious off-field conduct.

Suddenly, the circumstances around Robinson's program diverted attention from its 405 victories. Grambling's 40 percent graduation rate in last year's NCAA report, while not the eyesore that has embarrassed other schools, is not consistent with one of the giants of the game.

"I'd like to leave a good team behind," Robinson said. After having to deal with the administrative pressure and uncertainty that scores of other coaches have faced during Robinson's career, the most successful coach in the history of the game has his chance to leave a good program behind too.

Grambling State University

## Peyton Manning's Final Charge

Manning's return has its own risks. His offensive line, which struggled with inexperience and injury at the start of last season, may have grown into one of Tennessee's strengths this year.

But the divisional structure of the Southeastern Conference, with Florida forming a roadblock to the conference championship game, remains a problem that coach Phillip Fulmer has solved only once. If the Volunteers cannot reach Atlanta on the night of Dec. 6, Manning's final season will end in a second-tier bowl. If Tennessee cannot beat the Gators — and the road must go through Gainesville on Sept. 20 — any realistic Heisman chances will end two days before the first day of autumn.

Manning threw for 492 yards against Florida last year after the Vols fell hopelessly behind, but four interceptions and a fumble dropped him off the Heisman radar screen. The biggest upset on Heisman day was not Orlando Pace's appearance as a finalist, it was Manning's absence in New York.

By choosing to stay, and postponing the big money for a year, Manning gave himself one last opportunity to earn something that a professional paycheck could never buy — the chance to reach the biggest stage just after New Year's Day.

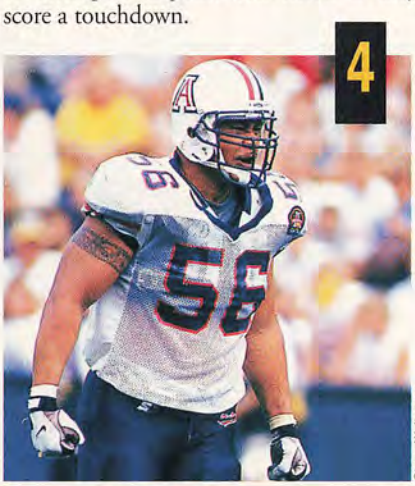
Courtland Richards

## Time Is Of the Essence

Some important advice: If you have any important trips to make at halftime, quickness counts. As part of an effort to trim minutes, the halftime clock will start at 20 minutes immediately after the end of the second quarter, not after the teams have left the field.

Other trims: The game clock will start when the ball is kicked off, and not when received, except with two minutes or less to go in each half. The clock will restart as soon as the ball is ready for play following any forward fumble out of bounds.

And then there is the overtime refinement. Of the 26 overtime games that were played in Division 1-A under the new rules last season, five went beyond two overtimes. One of the four double-overtime games, Arizona State's wild 48–35 victory over Southern California at Tempe, Ariz., highlighted the dangers involved in achieving a resolution when exhausted players pushed themselves through intense heat to the end of a long afternoon. This season, following the second overtime, teams will be required to attempt a 2-point conversion if they score a touchdown.



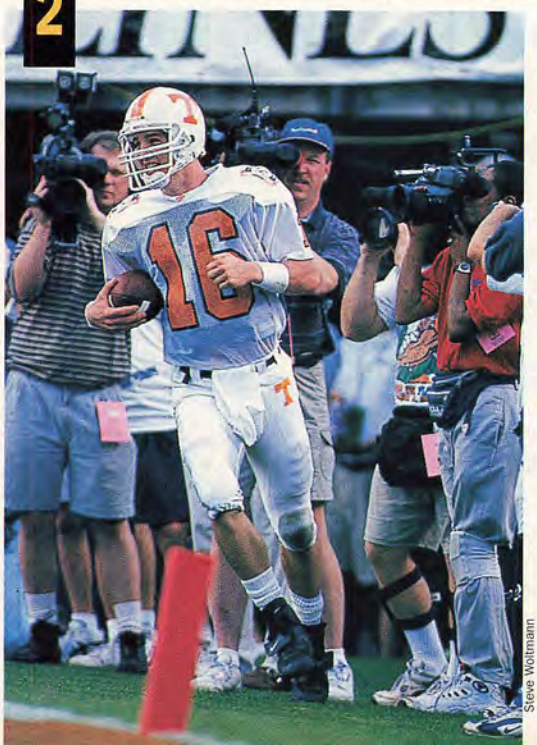
Steve Woltmann

## Most Eligible

The most significant rule change has already had an impact well beyond the stadium. When the NCAA membership strengthened the academic requirements for scholarship athletes in a series of moves that began with Proposition 48, advocates for higher standards felt that a failure to qualify as a freshman should result in the loss of a season of eligibility. As the process moved forward, proposals were made to restore that year as a reward for academic achievement once the athlete reached college. Last January, after years of unsuccessful efforts, the legislation was passed.

A scholarship athlete who does not meet requirements for freshman eligibility, after sitting out that first season, can regain a fourth year if he graduates within a four-year period. The overdue legislation provides an incentive for academic achievement for students who have struggled in their high school years.

Soon after passing, the new rule had a positive impact. Joe Salave'a of Arizona, a 6–4, 280-pound defensive tackle, was among the first players to gain from the ruling. Salave'a, a captain and second-team All-Pac-10 selection in 1996, suddenly had the chance to become one of 10 returning defensive starters in 1997.



Steve Woltmann

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## Rivalries Renewed

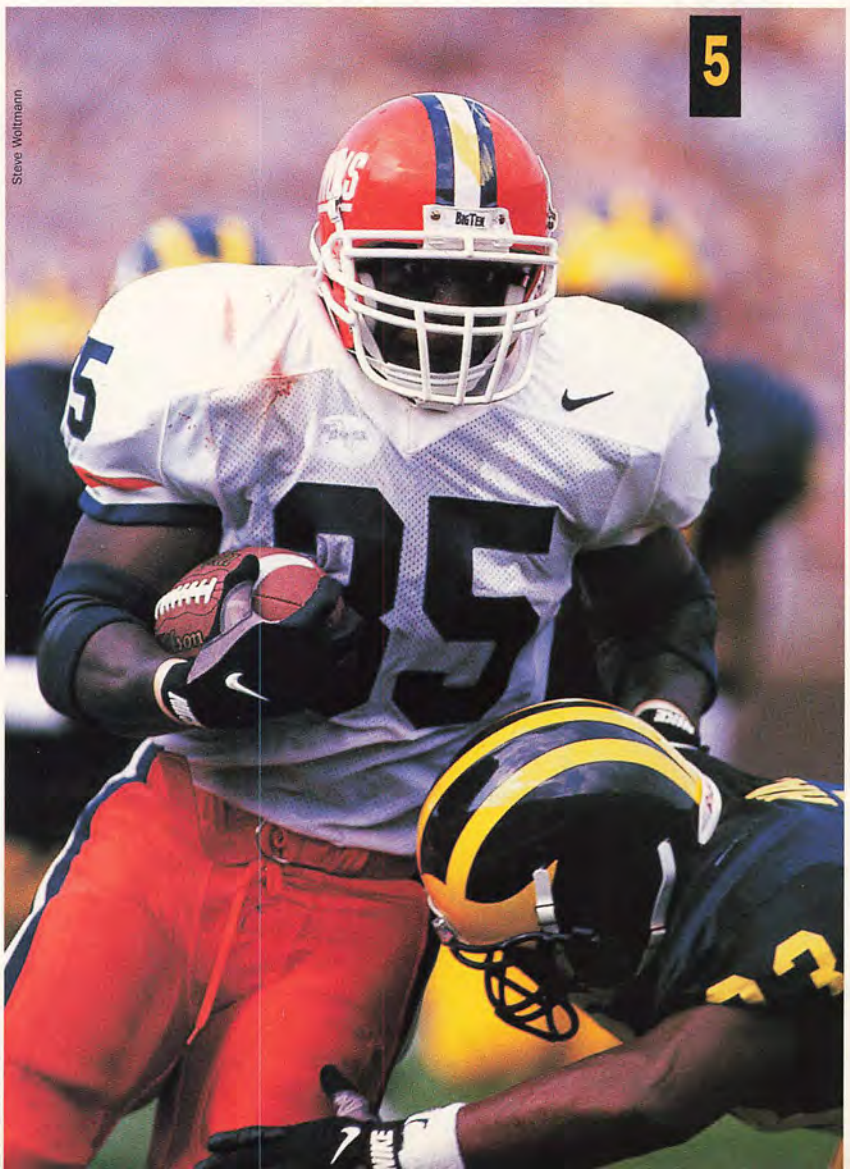
Some were once called intersectional battles in the days when those games required long train rides. Others were rivalry games. Before the expansion of old conferences or the creation of new ones, they were far simpler to arrange. So when we can regain a game we once cared so much about, the setting does not have to feel exactly the way it once did.

Penn State will open the 1997 season with a 17-game non-conference winning streak. Its game on Sept. 6, the Saturday after Labor Day, will be one that creates images of snowballs, not suntans. Pittsburgh has not met Penn State since 1992, but the game late this summer will be the first of four home-and-home games between rivals that will meet for the 93rd time. There may not be piles of snow behind the end zones, and the winner will not earn the status that a Thanksgiving weekend game can offer.

Michigan and Notre Dame, who created as compelling an opener as you could find anywhere, will meet at Ann Arbor on Sept. 27 for the first time since 1994. Before the Wolverines resume their series against the Irish, they will play their last scheduled game against Colorado. In each of the two Michigan-Colorado meetings, the Buffaloes have thrown a last-second pass toward the Wolverine end zone with the outcome still in doubt.

In 1994, Kordell Stewart's pass to Michael Westbrook, with the essential deflection from Blake Anderson, instantly became a part of history. Last year, as a storm moved toward Boulder, Koy Detmer's pass, tipped by Darrin Chiaverini, fell several feet from the dive of Rae Carruth as Michigan held on.

Conference expansion will lead to more casualties. Michigan and Illinois, which have met for 73 consecutive years, will not play until 1999 under a Big Ten policy that rotates two conference opponents off each team's schedule.



Steve Woltmann

## All-American, Again

Courtland Richards

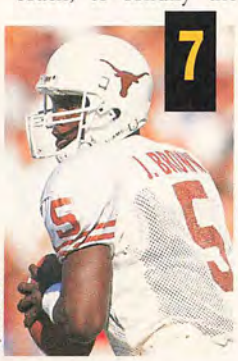
Aaron Taylor is not just another impressive part turned out by the gigantic weight room at Nebraska. As he enters his senior year, Taylor has a chance to do something that is unprecedented in Nebraska history — become an All-America player at two positions.

Taylor was a first-team center last season after moving to the position from left guard, where he played for the entire 1995 championship season. He averaged about 10 plays a game at right or left guard last season, when teammates needed a break, and became a semifinalist for the Lombardi Award and Outland Trophy at his new position. But with Josh Heskew ready to take over the center position this season, Taylor can move back to left guard to lead an offensive line that has three returning starters.

## Texas Turnaround

A return to prominence is not properly measured by one play, but this one will be remembered that way. Texas lost five times last season, had a record of 3–4 by the end of October and seemed headed nowhere. But the inaugural Big 12 championship game against Nebraska — a game the Cornhuskers strongly opposed — gave Texas the chance for that one bolt-of-lightning play that managed to define a season. James Brown's 61-yard pass to Derek Lewis on fourth-and-one from the Texas 28 led to an upset of Nebraska, a conference championship, and the sense that the Longhorns were back.

Brown will operate behind four returning starters in the offensive line, with all-conference running back Ricky Williams behind him. For John Mackovic, the Texas coach, to solidify the support that has seemed so elusive, the Longhorns must demonstrate that their progress to an alliance bowl is due to more than an extra game that their opponent did not want to play.



Layne Murdoch

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## Husky Future

We could see the future early last September when Arizona State survived Washington's late rally at Tempe. The immediate future on display was the ability of the Sun Devils to deal with a fourth-quarter crisis and find a way to survive. The longer range vision had to do with the redshirt freshman quarterback that brought Washington all the way back.

Brock Huard went into the game in the fourth quarter, with the Huskies trailing by 21 points. Within four minutes, he led them to three touchdowns, including a 67-yard pass. Arizona State won the game but Washington discovered its future.

Huard passed for 1,678 yards last season, a debut year second only to that of Sonny Sixkiller's 1970 sophomore season in Washington history. Huard passed for 13 touchdowns while throwing just five interceptions in 217 attempts. Washington, which won seven of the nine games Huard started, returns eight starters on each side of the ball, including Jason Chorak, a linebacker who was the Pacific-10 Defensive Player of the Year.

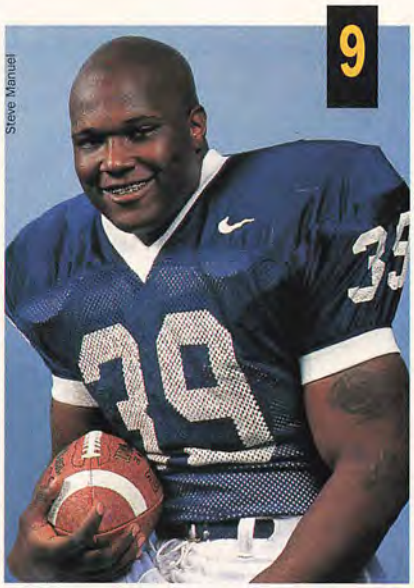
Steve Woltmann

In some of Washington's finest years, before the NCAA sanctions and the departure of former coach Don James, the band would celebrate downpours with its brassy version of "Stormy Weather" while Husky fans roared. The clouds are getting darker in Seattle, and those days no longer seem so far away.

## Enis No Secret

You had this feeling that Joe Paterno once did his best to preserve Curtis Enis as a secret weapon. If that thinking was part of the strategy in the development of Enis, it lasted exactly one game into his sophomore season. In the Kickoff Classic, on national television, against Southern California, Enis took advantage of the first start of his career by running for 241 yards and three touchdowns against the Trojans, the most rushing yards ever gained against USC.

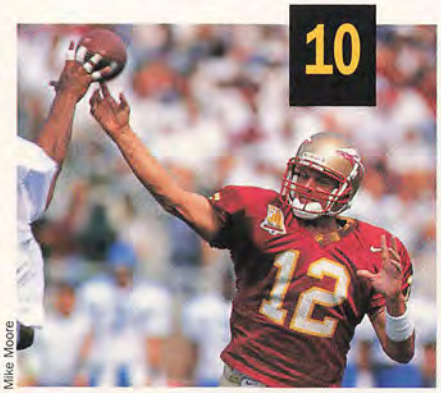
If Enis ever was a secret, those days were over. He gained 1,210 rushing yards to surpass the best years of Lenny Moore and Curt Warner, and build the sixth-best season in Penn State history, the best ever by a sophomore.



Steve Manuel

Enis' finish was nearly as strong as the start, with 167 yards in a surprisingly simple victory over Northwestern, 114 at Michigan and 165 against Michigan State. One more season like that and Enis will confront the option of leaving the Happy Valley for the NFL.

But enough of that talk. Enis' combination of power and speed will take fans at Beaver Stadium back to the way things used to be done by their favorite plain vanilla team, one that seems more than capable of a return to Pasadena on New Year's Day.



Mike Moore

## Seminole QB Pressure

Not many quarterbacks could claim these numbers going into their bowl games last season — a won-loss record of 10–0 for a No. 1-ranked team, 1,866 passing yards, 16 touchdowns and a 55 percent completion rate. But whatever Thad Busby accomplished at Florida State last year, it never seemed enough. Dan Kendra, an intensely-recruited freshman, was right behind him on the Seminole depth chart. Chris Weinke, who left Florida State after four days in 1990 to begin a professional baseball career, had returned to become a freshman at the age of 24.

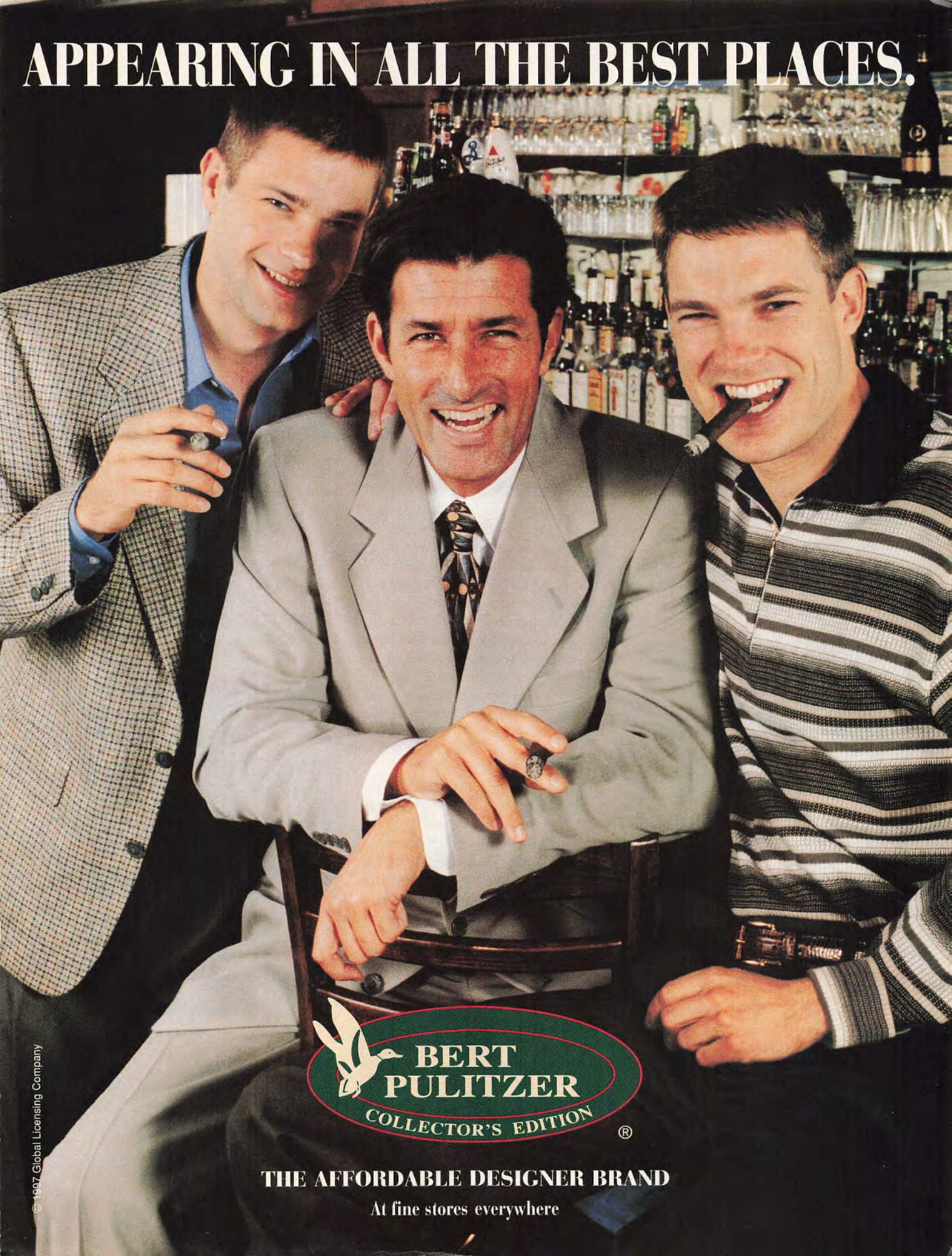
Busby's 12 interceptions led the questions about his future to persist. And when the Seminoles lost that No. 1 spot in the Sugar Bowl against Florida, in a game that had more to do with what the Gators accomplished than what Busby did not, the threats to his position became more real. So far, Busby has survived a competition for his job more intense than anything Dan Kanell and Charlie Ward had to face.

## Two-Way Woodson

There are not many ways that a junior can improve upon a first-team, All-America season, but Michigan's Charles Woodson has shown us the possibilities. He was a finalist for the Jim Thorpe Award as the top defensive back in the nation, but the added element Woodson gives Michigan comes on the other side of the ball.

From the flanker position, Woodson ran for 152 yards last season, including a 57-yard gain in the season-opening victory over Illinois, and caught 13 passes for 164 yards. His reverse handoff on the opening kickoff against UCLA, for a 17-yard gain, was a play that opposing special teams coaches do not want to see. Woodson had three receptions against Alabama in the Outback Bowl, an afternoon Michigan fans hope is a sign of things to come from the most potentially dangerous two-way player of his time.

Steve Woltmann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## Boston College Starts Over

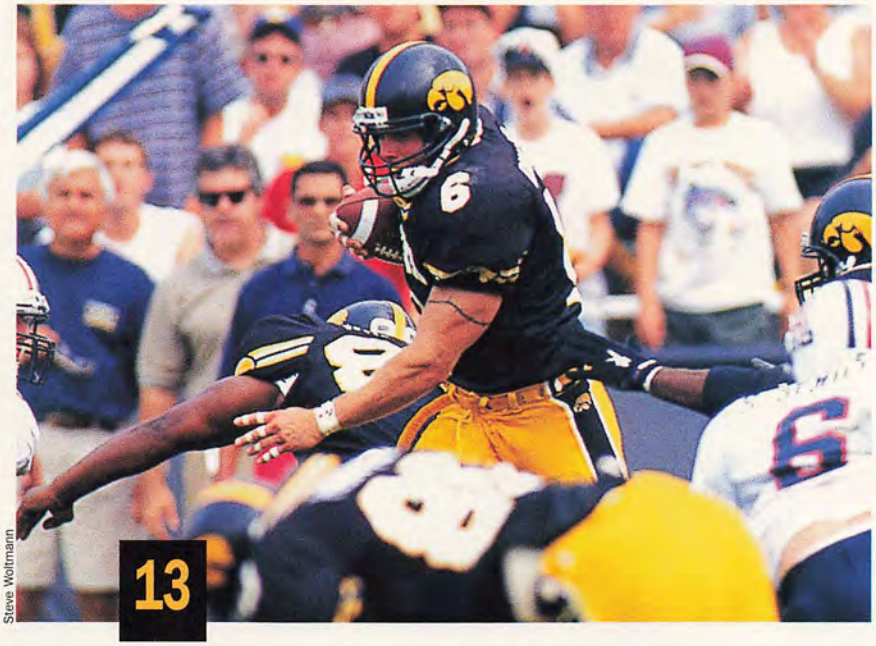
The decision-makers at Boston College wanted everyone to know that the humiliation of the gambling scandal last season, including the revelation that two Eagles placed bets against their team, was not the reason for the departure of former coach Dan Henning.

They insisted that the slide from the glory days under Tom Coughlin and the high point of David Gordon's game-winning kick to defeat Notre Dame at South Bend in 1993 was significant enough to make a change. Fine. But all the spin-doctoring cannot conceal the way that BC has come to be regarded, as a place that has undone the good work that extends all the way back to the Doug Flutie era of the early 1980s.

That is the starting point for Tom O'Brien, the former offensive coordinator at Virginia, whose new job includes the return of the discipline that characterized the Coughlin days.

More than anywhere else, after an autumn of pain and introspection, Boston College should look at the new season as a chance to start over.

John Sandhaus




Steve Woltmann

## Don't Blink In Iowa

There is not yet an award for this category, but there probably should be: The player most likely to force crowds to stand and watch before the ball even touches his hands. Anyone who traveled to Iowa City last year and watched the Iowa Hawkeyes force the opposition to punt will understand that the polls for this award would close quickly. When the ball is about to settle into the grasp of Tim Dwight, the local hero who stayed home to become a first-team All-America punt returner, you don't want to miss a stride.

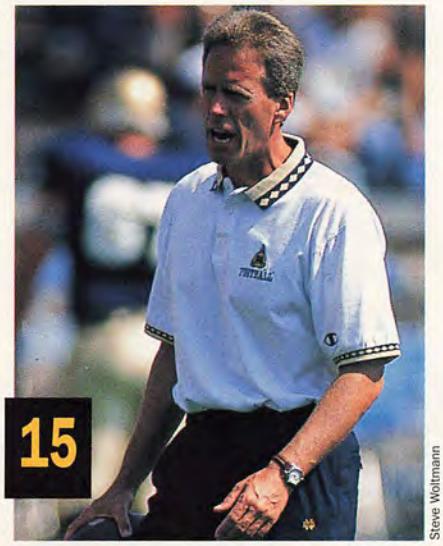
## LSU Is Back

Gerry DiNardo has increased the stakes at LSU much too high to talk about a November game before the start of the season. In two seasons, he has overcome the doubts in Baton Rouge surrounding the hiring of a coach with a losing record at Vanderbilt and replaced them with talk of reaching a national championship level. He has navigated his cornerstone recruit, Kevin Faulk, through problems that could have become a serious issue. His team has increased the average attendance beyond 79,000.

The Tigers will face Auburn and Florida at Tiger Stadium, a place that has returned its noise levels to seismic proportions. On Nov. 8 there is Alabama at Tuscaloosa in a game that could determine the SEC West champion.

Courtland Richards

But one week later, when Notre Dame comes to Tigertown, DiNardo will face the school that took in an undersized, under-recruited lineman out of St. Francis Prep in New York and gave him the chance to start for a national champion. Gerry DiNardo speaks the language of the bayou now, and the stakes can only become higher.




Steve Woltmann

## Irish Legacy

Bob Davie's promotion to head coach at Notre Dame last November was presented as a seamless transition less than 24 hours after Lou Holtz's emotional farewell game. By hiring the third-year defensive coordinator, the Irish preserved the continuity

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necessary for the recruiting season, minimized the damage that could have been caused by Gary Barnett's thanks-but-no-thanks response, and began the process that led Powlus to return for a final season at quarterback.

Two seasons ago, when Davie temporarily occupied the top spot as Holtz recovered from spinal surgery, his approach was so fresh and enthusiastic that players were reluctant to become publicly excited.

No one said as much, but it was clear that players feared that by showing support for Davie they would be perceived as criticizing Holtz. That enthusiasm helped Davie gain the most famous and most difficult job in his business.

Davie is enough of a veteran in the business to understand it will be more difficult for the transition to seem as smooth in the fall. For the Irish are one early-season defeat away from having their opinionated following wonder aloud whether the new coach is the biggest gamble since Gerry Faust.

## Family Matters

Mike DuBose was part of the right family tree. It is an oversimplification to say that the most important step in his coaching career took place long before it started, when DuBose went from Opp High School to play for Paul Bryant. But that has not hurt. After 11 seasons as an assistant at Alabama, DuBose succeeded Gene Stallings at a place where Bill Curry's ties with Vince Lombardi and Don Shula were somehow viewed as unacceptable.

DuBose's role as an assistant, developing the overpowering defensive unit that pushed Alabama to the 1992 national championship, provides a credibility with the Tide following that a better-known name would not have offered. That credibility could be essential in maintaining some patience if and when Alabama suffers the effects of the NCAA sanctions from several years ago. Mike DuBose is family, and the importance of that at Alabama cannot be measured.

Kent Gidley/University of Alabama

## Davis II

His brother became the first high school player in Dade County history to rush for 2,000 yards in a season. He became the second.

His brother made the long, lonely trip from Miami to Ames, Iowa, to Iowa State. His trip was not so lonely because his brother was there, too.

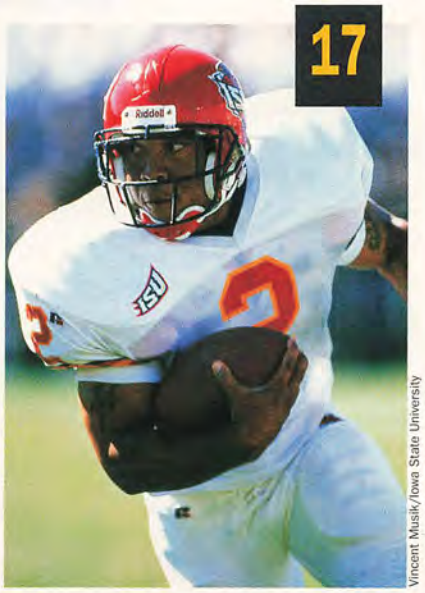
His brother became a Heisman finalist, then a runner-up as the first NCAA running back to exceed 2,000 yards in consecutive seasons.

Now Troy Davis is gone, and it's Darren Davis' turn.

He could have avoided the comparisons by going elsewhere — Miami or Florida State or West Virginia or Kentucky. But Iowa State and the Davis family were linked forever by Troy's excellence, and the connection has already been extended.

As a true freshman last season, Darren Davis ranked second in the Big 12 with a 24.1-yard average on 21 kickoff returns.

Can he become a featured back? Can he deal with the level of punishment his brother took on in the last two seasons? Darren Davis' time may have arrived.



Vincent Musik/Iowa State University

## The Corps of Cadets

It would be more than unreasonable to expect Army to equal its school-record 10-victory season, an achievement that earned Bob Sutton the Bobby Dodd Coach of the Year award.

It was nearly as unthinkable to anticipate that Army would beat Auburn in Shreveport, La., last New Year's Eve.

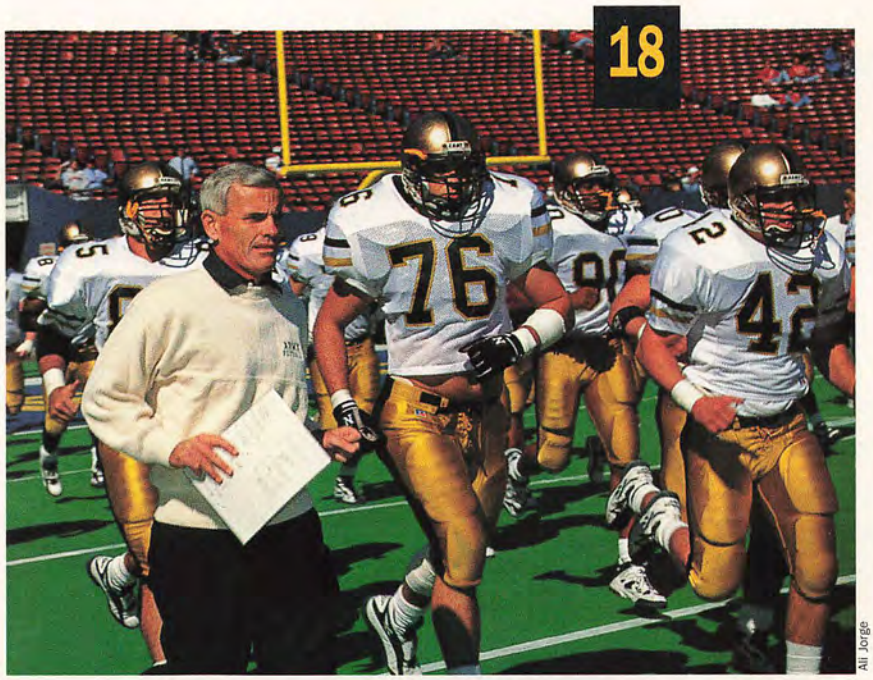
By 1998 the stakes will increase when the Cadets join Conference USA, the first league affiliation for Army football since it began in 1890.

If you are wondering how Sutton's remarkable reconstruction job has been possible, listen to the words Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf chose when speaking to the Corps of Cadets:

"When your football team goes on the field, it does not go on the field with the name West Point. It does not go on the field with the name Cadets. When your football team goes on the field, you take the field with the name Army.

"And you are representing not only this student body and this institution, but you are representing everyone who proudly calls themselves a soldier. And when you take that field, you take that field to do one thing, and that's to win.

"Losing, in our business, is unacceptable. We all know what MacArthur said about victory but it's true. You should never, ever, ever settle for a loss. Don't ever compromise for a loss, because you are Army and your country cannot afford for its Army to lose."

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Mike Moore

## Spurrier Smiles

Steve Spurrier was smiling on the morning of last Jan. 3 in a way he had not smiled all week in New Orleans.

Two days before, as the coach of the Florida Gators stood with Bobby Bowden of Florida State on the eve of the Sugar Bowl, Spurrier looked as if he wanted to be anywhere else. His consistent attacks on Florida State had created an atmosphere around a championship bowl game unlike anything since the nasty Penn State-Miami Fiesta Bowl 10 years before. Spurrier's face was taut and his smiles were forced the day before the Sugar Bowl, which only emphasized the enormous risk the Florida coach had taken.

Florida's loss in the 1996 Fiesta Bowl should not have been as embarrassing as it was portrayed, because the Gators were just in the wrong place at the wrong time against a once-in-a-generation team that had made the game into a crusade. But by reinforcing his claims of late hits by Florida State in Florida's regular-season loss at Tallahassee, Spurrier ran the risk of being remembered as a whiner whose teams lost big games in consecutive years.

Spurrier's offensive line and Danny Wuerffel's trademark poise in the face of the rush helped the coach avoid that perception.

As Spurrier smiled on the morning after, joking about poor plays from the night before, his relaxed approach had reporters looking at each other in wonder. Would Spurrier's biggest victory ever lead him to change? Would Spurrier be able to lighten up just enough to allow critics to address his remarkable creation, a Southeastern Conference dynasty?

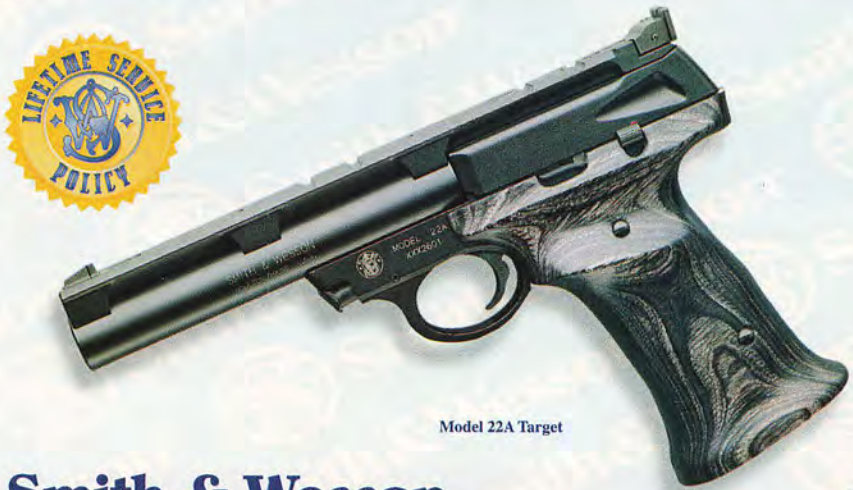
His Gators beat a team that had punished Florida just over a month before.

Somebody did an awful lot of coaching between Thanksgiving weekend and the night of Jan. 2.

## Rosy Bowl Alliance

The Bowl Alliance, in the final year of the second phase of its existence, has not existed long enough to have earned any meaningful sense of tradition. There have been too many broken hearts, too many angry and disappointed fans, too much confusion. Don't ask the 1994 Penn State Nittany Lions, with their perfect record, Rose Bowl victory and No. 2 ranking, if the system was improved. Don't ask the 1996 Brigham Young Cougars if teams reach the Alliance on merit. Don't ask the average college football fan to explain how it works.

But for all its secret loopholes, lack of trust and hints of arrogance, the system has succeeded in cleaning up an archaic framework built upon the smoke-filled room, a tra-

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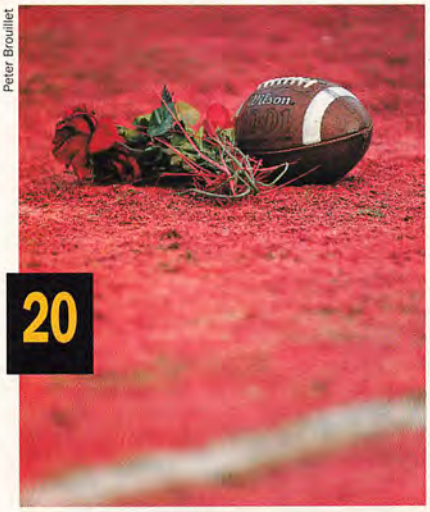
Peter Brouillet

dition that seems much more charming in hindsight than it did when it existed. Next season, the Alliance will take the final step, incorporating the Big Ten, Pacific-10 and the Rose Bowl to create the best chance of achieving a clear outcome to the season.

The Bowls will have earned their best opportunity to prevent the NCAA membership from voting to create a playoff. The marketplace can invest in an Alliance championship game without hesitation. But the neater and cleaner the end of the season becomes, the more a special excitement disappears.

The best of the bowl days developed when the one game had an effect on another, not just the undercard to an overhyped championship that will be finalized next season. Last January, when Florida fans realized their chance for a championship hinged on an Ohio State victory over Arizona State in the Rose Bowl, Gators everywhere adopted Ohio State, parked themselves in front of televisions the day before the Sugar Bowl, and backed the Buckeyes as if they were their own.

One of the most memorable moments of Sugar Bowl week in New Orleans — the sight and sound of Gators shrieking as they ran toward the French Quarter at the end of Ohio State's comeback — will not be able to happen under the system to take effect in 1998.

One other thought: When the Rose Bowl eventually hosts a championship game, a prime-time kickoff just won't work. On a sunny afternoon, leading up to sunset, there is no better place to watch any game. But after dark, in January's evening chill, the Rose Bowl becomes just another concrete saucer with a lot of uncomfortable benches. ■


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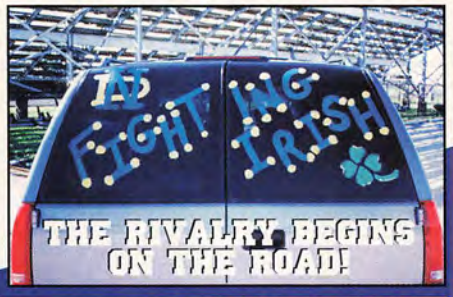


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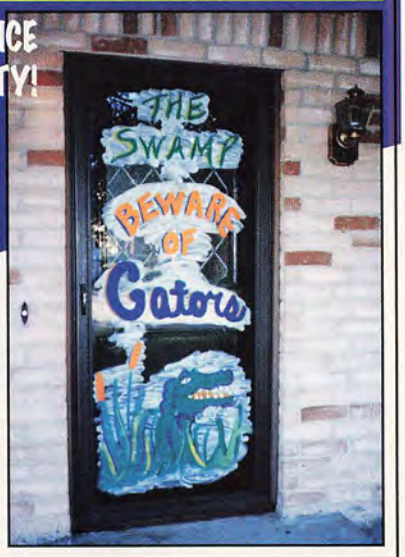


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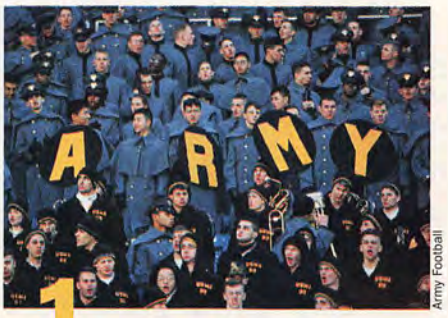
# Ten Greatest Traditions

*by* Sally Jenkins



Army Football

John Betancourt

Tradition is deeply personal. It's not just a matter of regional pride or local custom. It's a matter of sentiment, spite, cuisine, animal husbandry, relic worship and dueling horn sections.

To the uninvolved or uninitiated, a tradition can seem utterly inexplicable. Notre Dame's sacred golden rituals are meaningless to a Michigan grad, if not grounds for jest. Texas Longhorns wonder what stunning act of vulgarity the Texas A&M Aggies will perform next in the name of ceremony. A Miami student might ask whether those pale Princeton types play football at all, what with their overbred "rahs." And why would anybody fight over a wagon wheel? Good question, to everybody but the students at Akron and Kent, who play for that arcane item every year. Coal shuttles, brass spittoons, bell clappers and teacups assume an importance far beyond their physical properties on autumn Saturday afternoons. They become the objects of tears, drunkenness, theft, and high hilarity to student bodies. To the rest of us they are nothing but claptrap, of course. But there is one thing we all have in common: We all feel sorry for people who didn't go to a football school.

Any attempt to list the 10 Greatest Traditions in college football must therefore leave much out, and offend scores of loyalists. The Tennessee-Kentucky folks will no doubt be incensed that the Beer Barrel isn't included here. They will have to be content with a nod in their direction, and accept the fact that this list, like everything else in college football, is deeply personal.

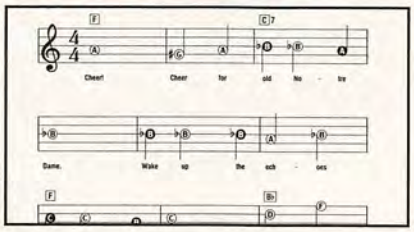
It's mine.

Steve Woltmann

## 1 The Army-Navy Game

The greatest of all field spectacles. Head-splitting cannon fire. Precision marching by young men in capes. Ever since they first met in 1890, admirals and generals have been rending their garments over the outcome. In 1893, an Army brigadier general and a Navy admiral actually challenged each other to a duel, prompting President Grover Cleveland to ban the rivalry. It was revived when tempers had cooled — in 1899. Some historians claim the series produced the first ticket scalpers.

## 2 Notre Dame's Victory March




Nobody does false idolatry like the Fighting Irish. The Golden Dome is just an administration building, the whole idea of Touchdown Jesus is probably blasphemous, and the sainted George Gipp liked to smoke, drink and gamble. But they have one thing that's genuine. Their magnificent fight song, written by the Shea brothers, John (class of 1908) and Michael ('05). The Michigan folks will lobby on behalf of "Hail to the Victors," but they get the helmets.

## 3 Michigan's Helmets

The Wolverines' headgear is an exercise in nostalgia. The three maize vertical stripes on a field of dark blue were originally designed by Fritz Crisler in 1938 when he arrived from Princeton. Previously, Michigan had used plain black helmets. Crisler thought the unusual pattern would help his passers spot their receivers downfield.

## 4 Texas-Oklahoma Weekend

State Fair of Texas

It's the greatest gameday festival in the world. The second weekend of October in Dallas starts with the Downtown Fight on the eve of the game, when oil barons and Kappa Alphas get drunk side by side and try not to fall out of their hotel windows. The record for Friday night arrests is over 700. Before kickoff, wander the State Fair grounds outside of the Cotton Bowl, chewing on a corny dog and mulling the proportions of your eight-aspirin hangover. Stroll to the barns and size up the livestock. Florida-Georgia people will insist theirs is the wetter and more elaborate tailgate, but they don't have a ferris wheel or a statue of Big Tex presiding.

Athlon Archives

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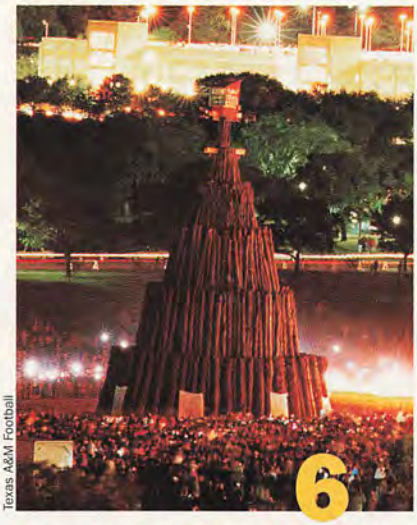
## 5 Ohio State's Dotting of the i

There are band tricks, and then there is this one. When Ohio State's marching band does it's script "Ohio" number, there is always that moment of suspense: Will the sousaphone player remember to run over and dot that i? Or will he forget?



Texas A&M Football

## 6 Texas A&M's Bonfire

Of all the Friday night fires, this one is the gaudiest. It was even grander forty years ago when the corps of cadets constituted a larger proportion of the student body than it now does, but it still sets the standard with flames three stories high. The bonfire rages on the polo fields on the northeast corner of the A&M campus the night before every Texas game — two nights before when the game is in Austin — and represents the Aggies' burning desire to beat the Longhorns.

## 7 Notre Dame-USC

USC's Howard Jones and Notre Dame's Knute Rockne inaugurated the concept of a cross country rivalry and culture clash in 1926, thereby placing college football on a national scale. The game reached a height in the mid-1960s, when John McKay's svelte Trojan teams had a way of outwitting Ara Parseghian's powerful Irish. More national championship drives have been derailed for both schools than either cares to remember. Frequently, the game has served as a Heisman Trophy showcase: Eleven Heisman honorees have participated in the series.

Stanford Axe Committee

## 8 The Stanford-Cal Axe

Maybe because these teams seldom challenge for a Rose Bowl berth, the Axe takes on even greater importance — it's the only trophy either side is likely to win. It's just a heavy, broad-bladed turn of the century fire axe, but it has been the object of sheer hysteria and innumerable theft attempts, and it is emblematic of two absolutely immortal events in college football history. The first was The Play, when Cal used five laterals on a kickoff return with no time left to beat Stanford 25–20 in 1982 and claim the hatchet. The second occurred three days later, when a group of Stanford students perpetrated a glorious hoax, distributing a replica of *The Daily Cal* carrying the headline, "NCAA Awards Big Game to Stanford."

## 9 The Wishbone

It's not that old. It was first implemented by Texas in 1968 and was used by both the Longhorns and the Oklahoma Sooners to win national championships. But it's seen its day. Despite frequent reports of its demise, however, the wishbone offense has become a unique staple of the college game. Quaint, sure, but it's still effective on occasion, especially as practiced by small schools, rebuilding programs, military academies and other upstarts who don't have access to blue chip-talent pools.

## 10 The Tournament of Roses

An aristocratic zoology professor named Charles Holder organized the parade and festival in 1890, with help from other patrician members of Pasadena's Valley Hunt Club. Horses, carriages, bicycles and burros were draped with roses, and thus the mechanized floats of today were invented. In 1902, James H. Wagner, president of the Tournament of Roses, proposed that the parade be followed by a football game matching the best of the East against the best of the West. Michigan beat Stanford 49–0 and the Rose Bowl was born. But it was such a lopsided defeat that organizers decided it was a bad idea, and instead held chariot and ostrich races for the next 14 years. The game was reinstated in 1916, and in 1925 it became a national story when Notre Dame and the Four Horsemen traveled West to beat a Stanford team coached by Pop Warner and led by the nation's most fearsome fullback, Ernie Nevers. The Irish won 27–10, and the game became firmly entrenched as a tradition. ■

Athlon Archives

Athlon Archives

*Sally Jenkins has covered football for more than 15 years for the* Washington Post *and* Sports Illustrated. *She is currently senior contributing writer for Conde Nast's new* Sports for Women *magazine. She's also the author of* Men Will Be Boys, *a humorous look at the relationship between men, women and football, published by Doubleday. Sally lives in New York, but was born in Tecas, which explains why she knows so much about football.*

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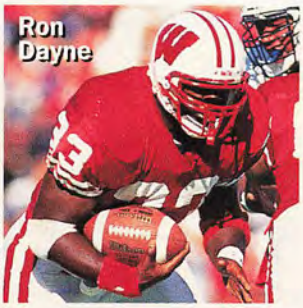
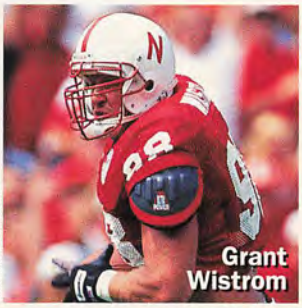
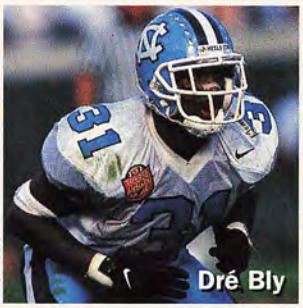
# Preseason All-America Teams

Steve Woltmann
Peyton Manning


Steve Woltmann
Ron Dayne


Courtland Richards
Grant Wistrom


Mike Moore
Dré Bly

## First Team All-America

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSE** | | | | | |
| WR | David Saunders | 6–2 | 205 | Jr. | West Virginia |
| WR | Jacquez Green | 5–9 | 168 | Jr. | Florida |
| TE | Alonzo Mayes | 6–3 | 274 | Sr. | Oklahoma State |
| OL | Mike Rosenthal | 6–7 | 315 | Jr. | Notre Dame |
| OL | Aaron Taylor | 6–1 | 305 | Sr. | Nebraska |
| OL | Benji Olson | 6–4 | 310 | Jr. | Washington |
| OL | Matt Stinchcomb | 6–7 | 280 | Jr. | Georgia |
| OL | Kyle Turley | 6–6 | 305 | Sr. | San Diego State |
| QB | Peyton Manning | 6–6 | 222 | Sr. | Tennessee |
| RB | Ricky Williams | 6–0 | 220 | Jr. | Texas |
| RB | Ron Dayne | 5–10 | 261 | So. | Wisconsin |
| **DEFENSE** | | | | | |
| DL | Leonard Little | 6–3 | 247 | Sr. | Tennessee |
| DL | Greg Ellis | 6–6 | 265 | Sr. | North Carolina |
| DL | Michael Myers | 6–3 | 270 | Sr. | Alabama |
| DL | Grant Wistrom | 6–5 | 250 | Sr. | Nebraska |
| LB | Daryl Bush | 6–2 | 235 | Sr. | Florida State |
| LB | Andy Katzenmoyer | 6–4 | 250 | So. | Ohio State |
| LB | Anthony Simmons | 6–1 | 225 | Jr. | Clemson |
| DB | Dré Bly | 5–10 | 180 | So. | North Carolina |
| DB | Charles Woodson | 6–1 | 197 | Jr. | Michigan |
| DB | Tony Parrish | 5–11 | 205 | Sr. | Washington |
| DB | Daylon McCutcheon | 5–11 | 175 | Jr. | USC |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | | | | |
| KR | Damon Dunn | 5–10 | 180 | Sr. | Stanford |
| PR | Tim Dwight | 5–9 | 185 | Sr. | Iowa |
| K | Phil Dawson | 5–11 | 193 | Sr. | Texas |
| P | Jim Wren | 6–0 | 220 | Sr. | USC |

## Second Team All-America

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSE** | | | | | |
| WR | D'Wayne Bates | 6–2 | 211 | Sr. | Northwestern |
| WR | Kevin Dyson | 6–1 | 197 | Sr. | Utah |
| TE | Jerame Tuman | 6–5 | 233 | Jr. | Michigan |
| OL | Alan Faneca | 6–5 | 310 | Jr. | LSU |
| OL | Jim Bundren | 6–3 | 290 | Sr. | Clemson |
| OL | Jeff Saturday | 6–3 | 290 | Sr. | North Carolina |
| OL | Jamar Nesbit | 6–4 | 303 | Jr. | South Carolina |
| OL | Kyle Murphy | 6–4 | 298 | Sr. | Arizona State |
| QB | Donovan McNabb | 6–2 | 213 | Jr. | Syracuse |
| RB | Curtis Enis | 6–1 | 230 | Jr. | Penn State |
| RB | Kevin Faulk | 5–10 | 192 | Jr. | LSU |
| **DEFENSE** | | | | | |
| DL | Jason Chorak | 6–5 | 260 | Sr. | Washington |
| DL | Chris Akins | 6–1 | 295 | Sr. | Texas |
| DL | Joe Salave'a | 6–4 | 280 | Sr. | Arizona |
| DL | Jason Peter | 6–5 | 285 | Sr. | Nebraska |
| LB | Dat Nguyen | 6–1 | 213 | Jr. | Texas A&M |
| LB | Brian Simmons | 6–4 | 230 | Sr. | North Carolina |
| LB | Jamie Duncan | 6–1 | 235 | Sr. | Vanderbilt |
| DB | Ryan Black | 5–10 | 190 | Sr. | Colorado |
| DB | Patrick Surtain | 6–0 | 186 | Sr. | Southern Miss |
| DB | Martavius Houston | 6–1 | 219 | Jr. | Auburn |
| DB | Anthony Poindexter | 6–1 | 202 | Jr. | Virginia |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | | | | |
| KR | Pat Johnson | 5–10 | 170 | Sr. | Oregon |
| PR | Allen Rossum | 5–8 | 179 | Sr. | Notre Dame |
| K | Cory Wedel | 5–9 | 190 | Sr. | Wyoming |
| P | Jesse Kosch | 6–0 | 185 | Sr. | Nebraska |

## Third Team All-America

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSE** | | | | | |
| WR | E.G. Green | 5–11 | 190 | Sr. | Florida State |
| WR | Bobby Shaw | 6–1 | 190 | Sr. | California |
| TE | Stephen Alexander | 6–4 | 244 | Sr. | Oklahoma |
| OL | Jason Fabini | 6–7 | 320 | Sr. | Cincinnati |
| OL | Melvin Thomas | 6–3 | 305 | Sr. | Colorado |
| OL | Kevin Long | 6–5 | 290 | Sr. | Florida State |
| OL | David Davis | 6–4 | 308 | Sr. | Baylor |
| OL | Olin Kreutz | 6–4 | 290 | Jr. | Washington |
| QB | Daunte Culpepper | 6–5 | 235 | Jr. | Central Florida |
| RB | Pepe Pearson | 5–10 | 206 | Sr. | Ohio State |
| RB | Scott Harley | 5–10 | 200 | Jr. | East Carolina |
| **DEFENSE** | | | | | |
| DL | Jared DeVries | 6–4 | 265 | Jr. | Iowa |
| DL | Ryan Olson | 6–2 | 280 | Sr. | Colorado |
| DL | Ed Chester | 6–4 | 274 | Jr. | Florida |
| DL | Chuck Wiley | 6–4 | 274 | Sr. | LSU |
| LB | Takeo Spikes | 6–2 | 228 | Jr. | Auburn |
| LB | Keith Brooking | 6–3 | 240 | Sr. | Georgia Tech |
| LB | Aaron Collins | 6–0 | 222 | Sr. | Penn State |
| DB | Chris McAlister | 6–2 | 185 | Jr. | Arizona |
| DB | Omarr Morgan | 5–10 | 160 | Sr. | BYU |
| DB | Tony Darden | 6–0 | 196 | Sr. | Texas Tech |
| DB | Deshea Townsend | 5–10 | 180 | Sr. | Alabama |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | | | | |
| KR | John Avery | 5–10 | 180 | Sr. | Mississippi |
| PR | Dante Hall | 5–9 | 180 | So. | Texas A&M |
| K | Damon Shea | 5–10 | 180 | Jr. | Nevada |
| P | Jason Bloom | 6–5 | 185 | Jr. | New Mexico |

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# ACC

## Predicted Order of Finish

1. North Carolina
2. Florida State
3. Clemson
4. Virginia
5. Georgia Tech
6. N.C. State
7. Maryland
8. Wake Forest
9. Duke

## Preseason All-ACC Team

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSE** | | | | | |
| WR | Harvey Middleton | 6–0 | 187 | Sr. | Georgia Tech |
| WR | E.G. Green | 5–11 | 190 | Sr. | Florida State |
| TE | Lamont Hall | 6–4 | 252 | Sr. | Clemson |
| OL | Jim Bundren | 6–3 | 290 | Sr. | Clemson |
| OL | Glenn Rountree | 6–3 | 290 | Sr. | Clemson |
| OL | Jeff Saturday | 6–3 | 290 | Sr. | North Carolina |
| OL | Lonnie Gilbert | 6–3 | 278 | Sr. | N.C. State |
| OL | Doug Karczewski | 6–5 | 284 | Sr. | Virginia |
| QB | Chris Keldorf | 6–5 | 235 | Sr. | North Carolina |
| RB | Tremayne Stephens | 6–0 | 200 | Sr. | N.C. State |
| RB | Raymond Priester | 6–1 | 230 | Sr. | Clemson |
| **DEFENSE** | | | | | |
| DE | Greg Ellis | 6–6 | 265 | Sr. | North Carolina |
| DE | Eric Ogbogu | 6–4 | 245 | Sr. | Maryland |
| DT | Andre Wadsworth | 6–4 | 282 | Sr. | Florida State |
| DT | Tony Dingle | 6–3 | 282 | Jr. | Virginia |
| LB | Anthony Simmons | 6–1 | 225 | Jr. | Clemson |
| LB | Brian Simmons | 6–4 | 230 | Sr. | North Carolina |
| LB | Daryl Bush | 6–2 | 235 | Sr. | Florida State |
| DB | Dré Bly | 5–10 | 185 | So. | North Carolina |
| DB | Anthony Poindexter | 6–1 | 202 | Jr. | Virginia |
| DB | Greg Williams | 5–11 | 187 | Sr. | North Carolina |
| DB | Shevin Smith | 6–0 | 191 | Sr. | Florida State |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | | | | |
| KR | Charlie Rogers | 5–10 | 180 | Jr. | Georgia Tech |
| PR | Dee Feaster | 5–9 | 182 | Jr. | Florida State |
| K | Sims Lenhardt | 5–11 | 185 | So. | Duke |
| P | Rodney Williams | 6–1 | 182 | Jr. | Georgia Tech |

# Big East

## Predicted Order of Finish

1. Miami
2. Syracuse
3. West Virginia
4. Virginia Tech
5. Boston College
6. Pittsburgh
7. Rutgers
8. Temple

## Preseason All-Big East Team

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSE** | | | | | |
| WR | Jake Hoffart | 6–1 | 198 | Sr. | Pittsburgh |
| WR | David Saunders | 6–2 | 205 | Jr. | West Virginia |
| TE | Todd Pollack | 6–4 | 241 | Sr. | Boston Coll. |
| OL | Kerlin Blaise | 6–5 | 303 | Sr. | Miami |
| OL | Gennaro DiNapoli | 6–3 | 301 | Sr. | Virginia Tech |
| OL | Scott Kiernan | 6–2 | 308 | Jr. | Syracuse |
| OL | Brent Warren | 6–5 | 338 | Sr. | Syracuse |
| OL | Todd Washington | 6–3 | 308 | Sr. | Virginia Tech |
| QB | Donovan McNabb | 6–2 | 213 | Jr. | Syracuse |
| RB | Ken Oxendine | 6–1 | 225 | Sr. | Virginia Tech |
| RB | Omari Walker | 5–10 | 212 | Sr. | Boston Coll. |
| **DEFENSE** | | | | | |
| DL | Bob Baum | 6–4 | 265 | Sr. | West Virginia |
| DL | John Engelberger | 6–4 | 252 | So. | Virginia Tech |
| DL | Kerwin Hairston | 6–2 | 272 | Sr. | Virginia Tech |
| DL | Henry Slay | 6–2 | 290 | Sr. | West Virginia |
| LB | Antwaune Ponds | 6–1 | 252 | Sr. | Syracuse |
| LB | Brian Sheridan | 6–0 | 209 | Sr. | Rutgers |
| LB | Jason Williams | 6–0 | 240 | Sr. | West Virginia |
| DB | Perlo Bastien | 6–1 | 185 | So. | West Virginia |
| DB | Donovin Darius | 6–1 | 206 | Sr. | Syracuse |
| DB | Loren Johnson | 5–10 | 176 | Jr. | Virginia Tech |
| DB | Duane Starks | 5–10 | 175 | Sr. | Miami |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | | | | |
| KR | Jim Turner | 6–4 | 209 | Sr. | Syracuse |
| PR | John Jenkins | 6–2 | 185 | Sr. | Pittsburgh |
| K | Nate Trout | 5–8 | 180 | So. | Syracuse |
| P | Jason Malecki | 6–2 | 221 | Jr. | Boston Coll. |

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# Big 10

## Predicted Order of Finish

1. Penn State
2. Ohio State
3. Michigan
4. Wisconsin
5. Iowa
6. Northwestern
7. Michigan State
8. Purdue
9. Illinois
10. Minnesota
11. Indiana

## Preseason All-Big 10 Team

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSE** | | | | | |
| WR | D'Wayne Bates | 6–2 | 211 | Sr. | Northwestern |
| WR | Tim Dwight | 5–9 | 185 | Sr. | Iowa |
| TE | Jerame Tuman | 6–5 | 233 | Jr. | Michigan |
| OL | Jon Jansen | 6–7 | 290 | Jr. | Michigan |
| OL | Flozell Adams | 6–7 | 330 | Sr. | Michigan St. |
| OL | Eric Gohlstin | 6–3 | 295 | Sr. | Ohio State |
| OL | Phil Ostrowski | 6–4 | 274 | Sr. | Penn State |
| OL | Paul Janus | 6–5 | 287 | Sr. | Northwestern |
| QB | Todd Schultz | 6–4 | 212 | Sr. | Michigan St. |
| RB | Ron Dayne | 5–10 | 261 | So. | Wisconsin |
| RB | Curtis Enis | 6–1 | 230 | Jr. | Penn State |
| **DEFENSE** | | | | | |
| DL | Jared DeVries | 6–4 | 265 | Jr. | Iowa |
| DL | Dimitrius Underwood | 6–7 | 250 | Jr. | Michigan St. |
| DL | Winfield Garnett | 6–6 | 305 | Sr. | Ohio State |
| DL | Chris Snyder | 6–3 | 250 | Jr. | Penn State |
| LB | Andy Katzenmoyer | 6–4 | 250 | So. | Ohio State |
| LB | Aaron Collins | 6–0 | 233 | Sr. | Penn State |
| LB | Ike Reese | 6–3 | 222 | Sr. | Michigan St. |
| DB | Charles Woodson | 6–1 | 197 | Jr. | Michigan |
| DB | Marcus Ray | 6–0 | 197 | Jr. | Michigan |
| DB | Damon Moore | 5–11 | 200 | Jr. | Ohio State |
| DB | Jamel Coleman | 6–0 | 192 | Sr. | Purdue |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | | | | |
| KR | Kenny Watson | 6–0 | 186 | So. | Penn State |
| PR | Tim Dwight | 5–9 | 185 | Sr. | Iowa |
| K | Chris Gardner | 5–9 | 195 | Sr. | Michigan St. |
| P | Alan Sutkowski | 6–1 | 188 | Sr. | Indiana |

# Big 12

## Predicted Order of Finish

### North

1. Nebraska
2. Colorado
3. Kansas State
4. Missouri
5. Kansas
6. Iowa State

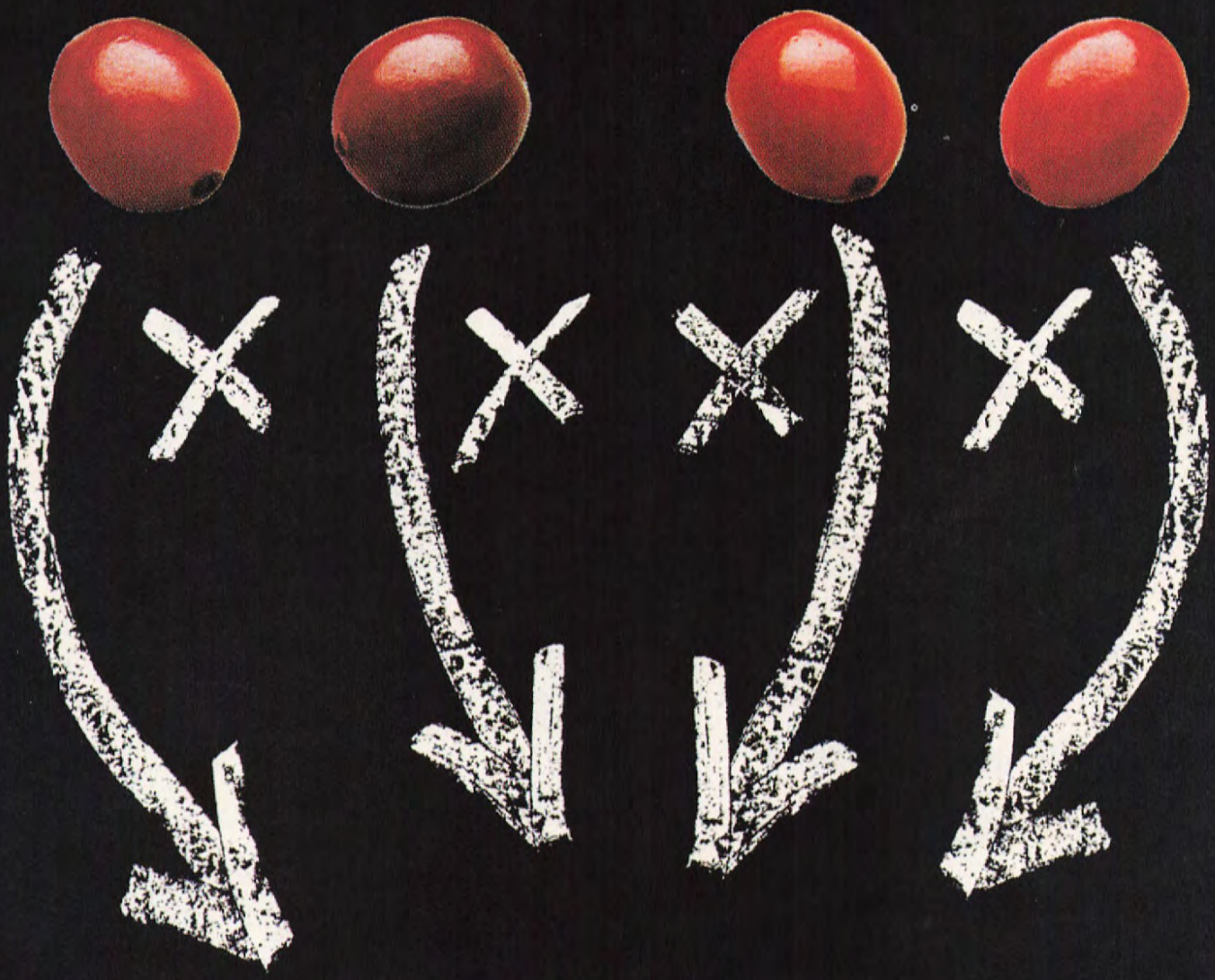
### South

1. Texas
2. Texas A&M
3. Texas Tech
4. Oklahoma
5. Baylor
6. Oklahoma State

## Preseason All-Big 12 Team

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSE** | | | | | |
| WR | Phil Savoy | 6–3 | 205 | Sr. | Colorado |
| WR | Ed Williams | 6–3 | 197 | Sr. | Iowa State |
| TE | Alonzo Mayes | 6–6 | 265 | Sr. | Oklahoma St. |
| OL | Aaron Taylor | 6–1 | 305 | Sr. | Nebraska |
| OL | David Davis | 6–4 | 317 | Sr. | Baylor |
| OL | Melvin Thomas | 6–3 | 305 | Sr. | Colorado |
| OL | Mike Morris | 6–3 | 310 | Sr. | Missouri |
| OL | Todd Weiner | 6–5 | 280 | Sr. | Kansas State |
| QB | James Brown | 6–0 | 195 | Sr. | Texas |
| RB | Ricky Williams | 6–0 | 220 | Jr. | Texas |
| RB | Ahman Green | 6–0 | 220 | Jr. | Nebraska |
| **DEFENSE** | | | | | |
| DL | Grant Wistrom | 6–5 | 250 | Sr. | Nebraska |
| DL | Jason Peter | 6–5 | 285 | Sr. | Nebraska |
| DL | Chris Akins | 6–1 | 295 | Sr. | Texas |
| DL | Ryan Olson | 6–2 | 280 | Sr. | Colorado |
| LB | Dat Nguyen | 6–1 | 213 | Jr. | Texas A&M |
| LB | Travis Ochs | 6–3 | 225 | Jr. | Kansas State |
| LB | Aaron Humphrey | 6–3 | 247 | So. | Texas |
| DB | Ryan Black | 5–10 | 190 | Sr. | Colorado |
| DB | Tony Blevins | 6–0 | 170 | Sr. | Kansas |
| DB | Tony Darden | 6–0 | 196 | Sr. | Texas Tech |
| DB | Gana Joseph | 6–0 | 202 | Jr. | Oklahoma |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | | | | |
| KR | Eric Vann | 5–9 | 205 | Sr. | Kansas |
| PR | Dante Hall | 5–9 | 180 | So. | Texas A&M |
| K | Phil Dawson | 5–11 | 193 | Sr. | Texas |
| P | Jesse Kosch | 6–0 | 185 | Sr. | Nebraska |

# ONE-OF-A-KIND PLAY



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# Big West

## Predicted Order of Finish

1. Nevada
2. Utah State
3. Idaho
4. North Texas
5. Boise State
6. New Mexico State

## Preseason All-Big West Team

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSE** | | | | | |
| WR | Geoff Noisy | 6–0 | 185 | Jr. | Nevada |
| WR | Nakia Jenkins | 6–1 | 215 | Sr. | Utah State |
| TE | Guillermo Chavez | 6–2 | 243 | Sr. | Utah State |
| OL | Mauricio Jourdan | 6–7 | 295 | Sr. | Utah State |
| OL | Phillip Armour | 6–4 | 255 | Jr. | North Texas |
| OL | Mike Edwards | 6–6 | 290 | Sr. | Nevada |
| OL | Mark Rommel | 6–5 | 312 | Sr. | Utah State |
| OL | Brandon Dyson | 6–4 | 290 | Sr. | Utah State |
| QB | John Dutton | 6–4 | 220 | Sr. | Nevada |
| RB | Denvis Manns | 5–9 | 200 | Jr. | New Mexico State |
| RB | Joel Thomas | 5–6 | 210 | Sr. | Idaho |
| **DEFENSE** | | | | | |
| DL | James Cannida | 6–2 | 280 | Sr. | Nevada |
| DL | Ben Crosland | 6–5 | 277 | Sr. | Utah State |
| DL | Tim Wilson | 6–0 | 270 | Sr. | Idaho |
| DL | Jon Rydman | 6–2 | 270 | So. | Boise State |
| LB | DeShone Myles | 6–3 | 240 | Sr. | Nevada |
| LB | Enrique Ramirez | 6–1 | 236 | Sr. | New Mexico State |
| LB | Benny Cherry | 6–1 | 220 | Sr. | North Texas |
| DB | Dhati Lewis | 6–2 | 205 | Sr. | North Texas |
| DB | Don Morgan | 5–11 | 190 | Jr. | Nevada |
| DB | Johndale Carty | 6–2 | 187 | Jr. | Utah State |
| DB | Ron Riley | 6–4 | 210 | Sr. | North Texas |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | | | | |
| KR | Chris Lemon | 5–11 | 200 | So. | Nevada |
| PR | Don Morgan | 5–11 | 190 | Jr. | Nevada |
| PK | Damon Shea | 5–10 | 180 | Jr. | Nevada |
| P | Jeff Davis | 6–0 | 197 | Jr. | Boise State |

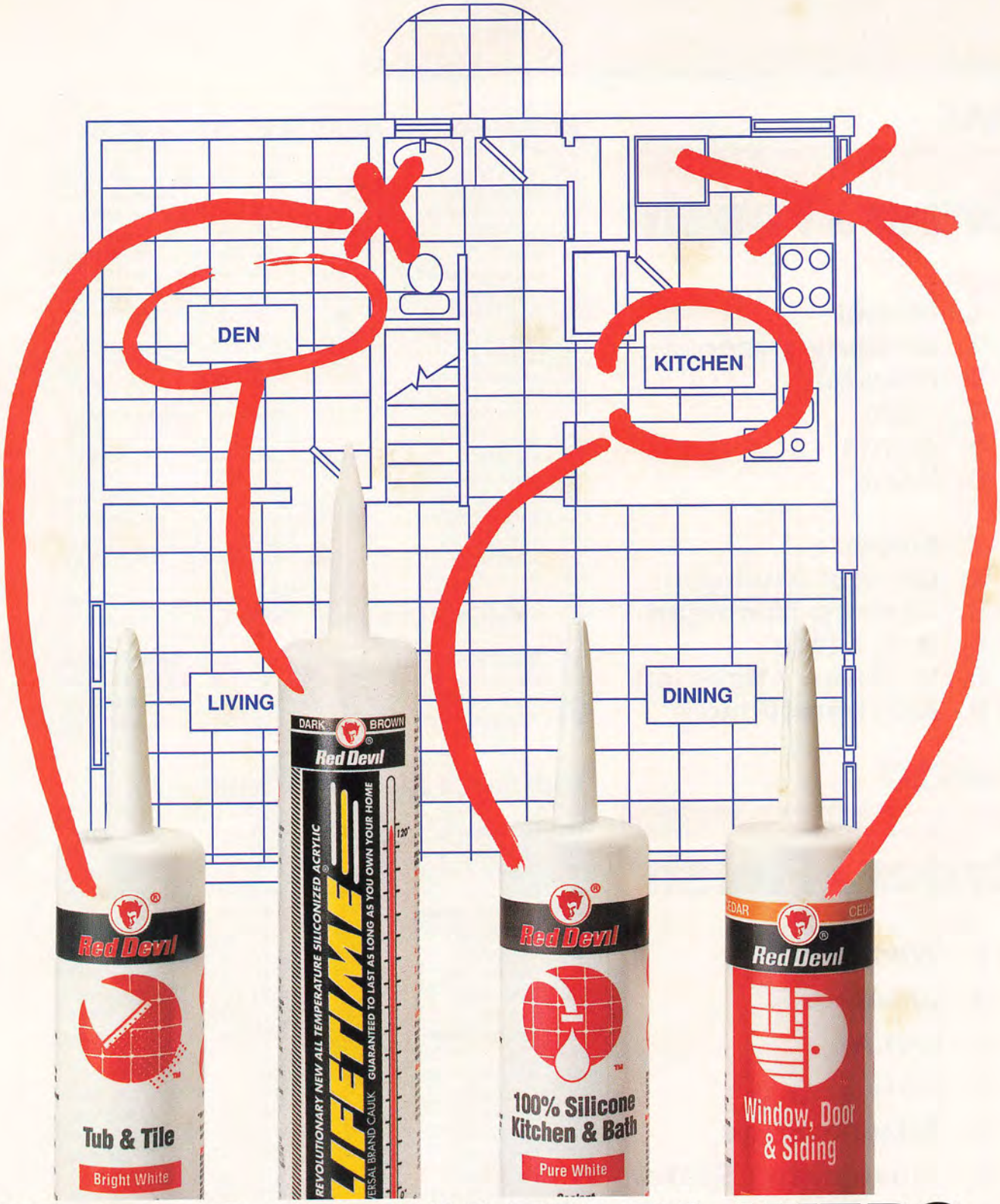
# C-USA

## Predicted Order of Finish

1. East Carolina
2. Southern Miss
3. Louisville
4. Cincinnati
5. Houston
6. Memphis
7. Tulane

## Preseason All-C-USA Team

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSE** | | | | | |
| WR | Miquel Montano | 5–10 | 181 | Sr. | Louisville |
| WR | Larry Shannon | 6–5 | 210 | Sr. | East Carolina |
| TE | Chris Powers | 6–5 | 255 | Jr. | Memphis |
| OL | Joel Dolenski | 6–2 | 300 | Sr. | Cincinnati |
| OL | Jason Fabini | 6–7 | 320 | Sr. | Cincinnati |
| OL | Ben Fricke | 6–0 | 275 | Sr. | Houston |
| OL | Danny Moore | 6–4 | 300 | Jr. | East Carolina |
| OL | Rick Nord | 6–6 | 287 | Jr. | Louisville |
| QB | Lee Roberts | 6–1 | 197 | Jr. | Southern Miss |
| RB | Scott Harley | 5–10 | 200 | Jr. | East Carolina |
| RB | Ketric Sanford | 5–10 | 189 | So. | Houston |
| **DEFENSE** | | | | | |
| DL | Marquis Bowling | 6–1 | 246 | Jr. | Memphis |
| DL | Kendrick Gholston | 6–4 | 268 | Sr. | Louisville |
| DL | Dennis O'Sullivan | 6–3 | 281 | Jr. | Tulane |
| DL | Adalius Thomas | 6–4 | 240 | So. | Southern Miss |
| LB | Brad Jackson | 6–2 | 224 | Sr. | Cincinnati |
| LB | Marchant Kenney | 6–2 | 221 | Sr. | Southern Miss |
| LB | Derrick Singleton | 6–1 | 230 | Sr. | Tulane |
| DB | Michael Jordan | 5–9 | 170 | Jr. | Tulane |
| DB | Mike McKenzie | 6–1 | 185 | So. | Memphis |
| DB | Perry Phenix | 6–1 | 205 | Sr. | Southern Miss |
| DB | Patrick Surtain | 6–0 | 190 | Sr. | Southern Miss |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | | | | |
| KR | Eric Booth | 6–1 | 200 | Sr. | Southern Miss |
| PR | Chancy Carr | 5–10 | 190 | Sr. | Memphis |
| PK | Eric Richards | 5–8 | 160 | Sr. | Cincinnati |
| P | Brad Hill | 6–1 | 190 | Sr. | Tulane |

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# MAC

## Predicted Order of Finish

### East

1. Miami
2. Bowling Green
3. Marshall
4. Ohio
5. Akron
6. Kent

### West

1. Toledo
2. Central Michigan
3. Eastern Michigan
4. Ball State
5. Western MIchigan
6. Northern Illinois

## Preseason All-MAC Team

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSE** | | | | | |
| WR | Randy Moss | 6–5 | 210 | So. | Marshall |
| WR | Reggie Allen | 6–0 | 175 | Jr. | Central Michigan |
| TE | Adam SImonson | 6–5 | 250 | Jr. | Central Michigan |
| OL | Mike Bird | 6–2 | 295 | Sr. | Miami |
| OL | John Wade | 6–5 | 270 | Sr. | Marshall |
| OL | Joe Lewandowski | 6–3 | 285 | Sr. | Western Micigan |
| OL | Rollie Ferris | 6–3 | 290 | Sr. | Central Michigan |
| OL | Mike Solominsky | 6–2 | 280 | Jr. | Ohio |
| QB | Kareem Wilson | 5–7 | 190 | Jr. | Ohio |
| RB | Silas Massey | 5–8 | 180 | Jr. | Central Michigan |
| RB | Astron Whatley | 5–8 | 190 | Sr. | Kent |
| **DEFENSE** | | | | | |
| DL | Lional Dalton | 6–1 | 315 | Sr. | Eastern Michigan |
| DL | Damon Hummel | 6–5 | 258 | Jr. | Ball State |
| DL | B.J. Cohen | 6–3 | 240 | Sr. | Marshall |
| DL | Jason Richards | 6–4 | 270 | Sr. | Toledo |
| LB | JoJuan Armour | 6–1 | 205 | Jr. | Miami |
| LB | Kevin O'Niell | 6–2 | 235 | Sr. | Bowling Green |
| LB | Larry McCloud | 6–4 | 230 | Sr. | Marshall |
| DB | Jamie Taylor | 5–9 | 170 | Sr. | Miami |
| DB | Dennis Fitzgerald | 5–10 | 200 | Jr. | Ohio |
| DB | Clarence Love | 5–11 | 181 | Sr. | Toledo |
| DB | Andre McCray | 5–10 | 185 | Jr. | Akron |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | | | | |
| KR | Reggie Allen | 6–0 | 175 | Jr. | Central Michigan |
| PR | Keijuan Douglas | 5–5 | 156 | So. | Eastern Michigan |
| PK | Brent Lockliear | 5–11 | 180 | Sr. | Ball State |
| P | Andy Pollock | 6–2 | 195 | Jr. | Bowling Green |

# Pac-10

## Predicted Order of Finish

1. Washington
2. Stanford
3. UCLA
4. USC
5. Arizona State
6. Washington State
7. Arizona
8. Oregon
9. California
10. Oregon State

## Preseason All-Pac-10 Team

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSE** | | | | | |
| WR | R. Jay Soward | 5–11 | 175 | So. | USC |
| WR | Bobby Shaw | 6–1 | 190 | Sr. | California |
| TE | Cameron Cleeland | 6–4 | 265 | Sr. | Washington |
| OL | Benji Olson | 6–4 | 310 | Jr. | Washington |
| OL | Chad Overhauser | 6–5 | 295 | Sr. | UCLA |
| OL | Kyle Murphy | 6–4 | 298 | Sr. | Arizona State |
| OL | Olin Kreutz | 6–4 | 290 | Jr. | Washington |
| OL | Grey Ruegamer | 6–5 | 287 | Jr. | Arizona State |
| QB | Brock Huard | 6–5 | 220 | So. | Washington |
| RB | Skip Hicks | 6–0 | 222 | Sr. | UCLA |
| RB | Rashaan Shehee | 5–11 | 205 | Sr. | Washington |
| **DEFENSE** | | | | | |
| DL | Jason Chorak | 6–5 | 260 | Sr. | Washington |
| DL | Kailee Wong | 6–3 | 260 | Sr. | Stanford |
| DL | Dorian Boose | 6–7 | 280 | Sr. | Wash. St. |
| DL | Joe Salave'a | 6–4 | 280 | Sr. | Arizona |
| LB | Chris Draft | 6–1 | 220 | Sr. | Stanford |
| LB | Pat Tillman | 5–11 | 200 | Sr. | Arizona State |
| LB | Chester Burnett | 5–11 | 223 | Sr. | Arizona |
| DB | D. McCutcheon | 5–11 | 175 | Jr. | USC |
| DB | Chris McAlister | 6–2 | 185 | Jr. | Arizona |
| DB | Tony Parrish | 5–11 | 205 | Sr. | Washington |
| DB | Shaun Williams | 6–2 | 204 | Sr. | UCLA |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | | | | |
| KR | Damon Dunn | 5–10 | 180 | Sr. | Stanford |
| PR | Shawn Tims | 5–10 | 179 | Sr. | Wash. St. |
| K | Robert Nycz | 5–11 | 194 | Sr. | Arizona State |
| P | Jim Wren | 6–0 | 220 | Sr. | USC |

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# SEC

## Predicted Order of Finish

### East

1. Florida
2. Tennessee
3. Georgia
4. Vanderbilt
5. South Carolina
6. Kentucky

### West

1. LSU
2. Auburn
3. Alabama
4. Mississippi State
5. Arkansas
6. Ole Miss

## Preseason All-SEC Team

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSE** | | | | | |
| WR | Jacquez Green | 5–9 | 168 | Jr. | Florida |
| WR | Marcus Nash | 6–3 | 190 | Sr. | Tennessee |
| TE | Larry Brown | 6–5 | 250 | Jr. | Georgia |
| OL | Matt Stinchcomb | 6–7 | 280 | Jr. | Georgia |
| OL | Victor Riley | 6–5 | 321 | Sr. | Auburn |
| OL | Zach Piller | 6–5 | 320 | Jr. | Florida |
| OL | Alan Faneca | 6–5 | 310 | Jr. | LSU |
| OL | Jamar Nesbit | 6–4 | 303 | Jr. | South Carolina |
| QB | Peyton Manning | 6–5 | 222 | Sr. | Tennessee |
| RB | Kevin Faulk | 5–10 | 192 | Jr. | LSU |
| RB | Fred Taylor | 6–1 | 222 | Sr. | Florida |
| **DEFENSE** | | | | | |
| DL | Leonard Little | 6–3 | 247 | Sr. | Tennessee |
| DL | Chuck Wiley | 6–4 | 274 | Sr. | LSU |
| DL | Michael Myers | 6–3 | 270 | Sr. | Alabama |
| DL | Ed Chester | 6–4 | 274 | Jr. | Florida |
| LB | Jamie Duncan | 6–1 | 235 | Sr. | Vanderbilt |
| LB | Takeo Spikes | 6–2 | 228 | Jr. | Auburn |
| LB | Johnny Rutledge | 6–2 | 237 | Jr. | Florida |
| DB | Deshea Townsend | 5–10 | 180 | Sr. | Alabama |
| DB | Martavius Houston | 6–1 | 219 | Jr. | Auburn |
| DB | Fred Weary | 5–10 | 177 | Sr. | Florida |
| DB | Corey Chavous | 6–0 | 207 | Sr. | Vanderbilt |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | | | | |
| KR | John Avery | 5–10 | 180 | Sr. | Ole Miss |
| PR | Jacquez Green | 5–9 | 168 | Jr. | Florida |
| K | Jarret Holmes | 6–2 | 209 | Sr. | Auburn |
| P | Chad Kessler | 6–1 | 197 | Sr. | LSU |

# WAC

## Predicted Order of Finish

### Mountain Division

1. BYU
2. Rice
3. Utah
4. New Mexico
5. Tulsa
6. TCU
7. SMU
8. UTEP

### Pacific Division

1. Colorado State
2. San Diego State
3. Fresno State
4. Wyoming
5. Air Force
6. Hawaii
7. UNLV
8. San Jose State

## Preseason All-WAC Team

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **OFFENSE** | | | | | |
| WR | Kevin Dyson | 6–1 | 197 | Sr. | Utah |
| WR | Windrell Hayes | 5–11 | 185 | Jr. | San Jose St. |
| OL | Kyle Turley | 6–6 | 305 | Sr. | San Diego St. |
| OL | Jay Korth | 6–4 | 300 | Sr. | Wyoming |
| OL | Ephraim Salaam | 6–7 | 290 | Sr. | San Diego St. |
| OL | Anthony Cesario | 6–6 | 300 | Jr. | Colorado St. |
| OL | Charles Torello | 6–1 | 300 | Jr. | Rice |
| TE | Eli Workman | 6–4 | 262 | Sr. | Colorado St. |
| QB | Jon Denton | 6–3 | 210 | So. | UNLV |
| RB | C. Fuamatu-Ma'afala | 6–0 | 275 | Jr. | Utah |
| RB | Lennox Gordon | 6–0 | 201 | Jr. | New Mexico |
| **DEFENSE** | | | | | |
| DL | Adrian Ross | 6–3 | 237 | Sr. | Colorado St. |
| DL | Jeff Leonard | 6–3 | 275 | Sr. | Wyoming |
| DL | Matt Harper | 6–6 | 255 | Sr. | TCU |
| LB | Chris Bordano | 6–2 | 235 | Sr. | SMU |
| LB | A.J. Gass | 6–3 | 210 | Sr. | Fresno State |
| LB | Chris Gizzi | 6–0 | 230 | Sr. | Air Force |
| LB | Jim Talich | 6–2 | 235 | Sr. | Wyoming |
| DB | Eddie Klaneski | 5–9 | 190 | Sr. | Hawaii |
| DB | Omarr Morgan | 5–10 | 160 | Sr. | BYU |
| DB | Brian Lee | 6–2 | 200 | Sr. | Wyoming |
| DB | Jason Moore | 5–10 | 180 | Sr. | San Diego St. |
| **SPECIALISTS** | | | | | |
| PR | Chad Smith | 5–10 | 186 | Jr. | New Mexico |
| KR | Jemal Singleton | 5–9 | 192 | Jr. | Air Force |
| K | Cory Wedel | 5–9 | 190 | Sr. | Wyoming |
| P | Jason Bloom | 6–5 | 185 | Jr. | New Mexico |

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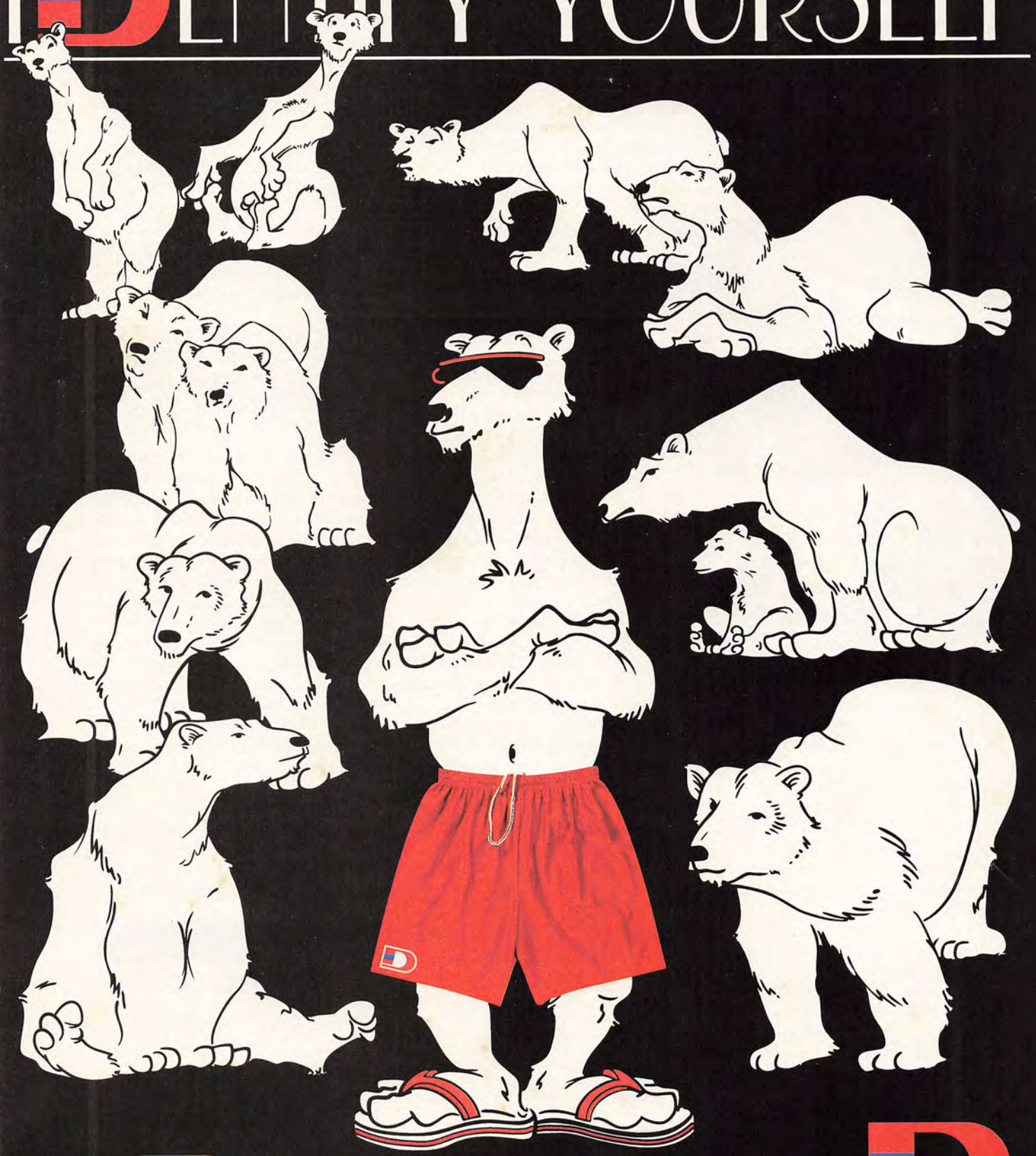

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# Washington Huskies

**Head Coach** ..... **Jim Lambright**
**1996 Record (Pac-10)** .... **9–3 (7–1)**
**1997 Prediction** ..... **1st Pac-10**
**Home Field** ..... **Husky Stadium (72,500)**

Progress has been slow but steady, and it paid dividends a year ago, when Washington was 9–3, 7–1 in the Pacific-10 and one game, perhaps even one play, from the Rose Bowl.

The five-year climb from the ashes of a league-sanctioned program, with its bowl ban and recruiting limitations, is complete, and the Huskies stand ready to return to Pasadena. In the early '90s, the Rose Bowl might as well have been printed at the end of the Washington schedule.

Tony Parrish

Steve Woltmann

"I think that's a nice compliment to our recruiting and the fact that we've played so many young players the last two years," says coach Jim Lambright, poised to accept the rewards of that strategy. "Now, some key positions will be staffed by seniors and we'll have senior leadership, which is what you want."

However, the key position of quarterback will be staffed by a youthful sophomore, but a game-tested, wise one.

Shane Fortney replaced graduated Damon Huard as Washington's quarterback, but for only a couple of quarters until Damon's brother, Brock, came on as a redshirt freshman and almost beat Rose Bowl-bound Arizona State. He played the rest of the year and finished with the second-best debut season in school history with 1,678 yards on 108-for-217 passing.

Huard, a 6–5, 220-pound left-hander, is going to be asked to do more this season.

Rashaan Shehee was at Washington before Corey Dillon, last year's running sensation, got there. Shehee is a senior now. He's fairly well-rested after a junior season spent largely on the shelf because of a hamstring injury and a heel/ankle injury.

Shehee, remember, had 171 yards and two touchdowns in his first start, two seasons ago against Notre Dame. He is healthy now, which means he's back running those 4.3 40s.

He'll be pushed for time by junior Mike Reed, who is bigger but not as fast, with junior Jason Harris and sophomore Maurice Shaw also playing occasionally.

The Huskies have increasingly put the fullback position in mothballs, in favor of an H-back, but when a fullback is called for, stocky junior George Keiaho is the answer.

Senior split end Jerome Pathon was an unknown commodity a season ago, a transfer from Acadia University in Nova Scotia. Pathon caught 41 passes, seven for touchdowns. He also averaged 12.1 yards as a punt returner and 29.1 returning kickoffs, including one for 86 yards and a score against Colorado in the Holiday Bowl.

Senior Cameron Cleeland is a most deceptive tight end in that he's a 265-pounder for a team that likes to run the ball, but he also averaged 15.4 yards per reception last season.

Along the line, you begin with junior strong-side guard Benji Olson, a consensus All-American and the best offensive lineman in the Pac-10. The Huskies have veterans up front, with four starters returning. They blocked well enough to escort backs for 2,400 yards last year, while giving up only 16 sacks. At center, junior Olin Kreutz was All-Pac-10. Both tackles, junior Tony Coats and senior Mostafa Sobhi, are vets.

Sophomore nose tackle Mac Tuiaea is back to anchor an experienced defensive wall. Senior Chris Campbell, an undersized 240-pound end, used his speed to penetrate backfields, with 10 tackles for loss and 5½ sacks a year ago.

Outside, the linebackers are as good as any, with seniors Jason Chorak, a 260-pound Butkus Award candidate, and Jerry Jensen. Chorak is the leader of Washington's pressure defense on the strong side. He racked up 14½ sacks and totaled 22 tackles for loss, both school single-season records.

**82** In 1996, Washington scored 82 percent of the time it was in the "red zone (inside its rival's 20-yard line)," including 34 touchdowns in 50 trips.

As a group, the secondary intercepted only seven passes last season. In fact, the whole team intercepted just 10, the lowest total for the Huskies since 1938. But that is misleading. Cornerbacks Mel Miller and Jermaine Smith were tested as freshmen. Now they're veteran sophomores.

The free safety is senior Tony Parrish, an all-conference selection who is the team's leading returning tackler with 71. Washington uses Parrish like an extra linebacker in what amounts to an eight-man front, though he has five career interceptions.

Junior Nigel Burton, who came to the Huskies last season from the defunct program at Pacific, is the roverback.

Sophomore Randy Jones is the placekicker. Senior Hamid Sarshar, a former walk-on, does the punting but will be pushed for the job by sophomore Ian Hughes, a transfer from Army, and Sean O'Laughlin, a junior-college transfer.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | **24 Jerome Pathon (Sr., 2)**; 43 Manny Austin (Fr., 0) |
| LT | **67 Tony Coats (Jr., 2)**; 68 Elliot Silvers (Fr., 0) |
| LG | 51 Brad Hutt (Jr., 0); 55 Petrocelli Kesi (Sr., 1) |
| C | **77 Olin Kreutz (Jr., 2)**; 54 Matt Fraize (Fr., 0) |
| RG | **76 Benji Olson (Jr., 2)**; 70 Ben Kadletz (Jr., 1) |
| RT | **78 Mostafa Sohbi (Sr., 2)**; 75 Aaron Dalan (Jr., 2) |
| TE | **85 Cameron Cleeland (Sr., 3)**; 84 Jeremy Brigham (Sr., 2) |
| QB | **7 Brock Huard (So., 1)**; 16 Jon Minter (So, 0) |
| FB | 25 George Keiaho (Jr., 2); 6 Terry Hollimon (Sr., 2) |
| TB | 1 Rashaan Shehee (Sr., 2); 36 Mike Reed (Jr., 2) |
| FL | **22 Fred Coleman (Sr., 3)**; 9 Gerald Harris (So., 1) |
| K | 48 Randy Jones (So., 1) |

### DEFENSE (8)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | **35 Chris Campbell (Sr., 1)**; 99 Josh Smith (Jr., 2) |
| NT | **78 Mac Tuiaea (So., 1)**; 55 Kurth Connell (So., 1) |
| DT | 67 Sekou Wiggs (Sr., 2); 95 Jabari Issa (So., 1) |
| LB | **46 Jason Chorak (Sr., 3)**; 66 Chris Lang (Jr., 1) |
| LB | 27 Marques Hairston (So., 1); 9 Chris Waddell (Fr., 0) |
| LB | 17 Lester Towns (So., 1); 43 Jeremiah Pharms (Fr., 0) |
| LB | **40 Jerry Jensen (Sr., 3)**; 23 Todd Johnson (Sr., 1) |
| CB | **25 Mel Miller (So., 1)**; 28 Hakim Weatherspoon (Jr., 1) |
| CB | **1 Jermaine Smith (So., 1)**; 10 Toure Butler (Fr., 0) |
| SS | **8 Nigel Burton (Jr., 1)**; 15 Alex Hollowell (Sr., 1) |
| FS | **7 Tony Parrish (Sr., 3)**; 13 Brendan Jones (Jr., 2) |
| P | 34 Hamid Sarshar (Sr., 1) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

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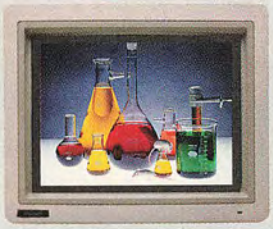

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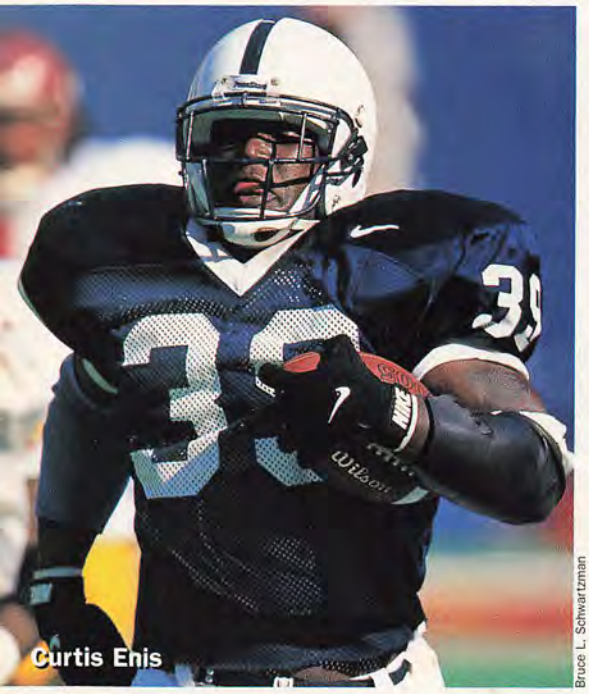
# Penn State Nittany Lions

**Head Coach** ..... **Joe Paterno**
**1996 Record (Big 10)** .... **11–2 (6–2)**
**1997 Prediction** ..... **1st Big 10**
**Home Field**..... **Beaver Stadium (93,967)**

As Joe Paterno prepares to begin his 32nd season as Penn State's head coach — and 48th year on the football staff — Paterno is coming off a season in which he (1) turned a supposed rebuilding year into an 11–2 record with one of his youngest teams; and (2) celebrated his 70th birthday on Dec. 21. He also pulled within 34 of Bear Bryant's all-time record of 323 major-college coaching victories. Another 11-win campaign — and Paterno has 12 of them already — would make him the fourth coach in major-college history to reach 300.


Curtis Enis

Bruce L. Schwartzman

"It seems like he gets younger every year," says defensive tackle Brandon Noble, one of the stars of last year's team. "And he still gets excited about every team."

The 1997 edition should be no exception. The Lions return 13 starters (six offense, seven defense) and get back two defensive players who missed last year with injuries.

Quarterback Wally Richardson led the Lions to a 20–5 record over the last two seasons and departed with 378 completions — second-best in school history — and Penn State's lowest career interception percentage (14 in 692 attempts). Mike McQueary, the heir apparent, saw action in eight regular-season games. He threw for 184 yards and produced 38 unanswered points to rally the Lions from a 20–10 halftime deficit against Indiana. Overall, McQueary completed 21 of 44 passes for 388 yards, three touchdowns and two interceptions.

The ground attack returns intact with eight lettermen who combined for 2,544 yards a year ago. Over 1,200 belong to tailback Curtis Enis, who has led the team in rushing two straight years. There's talent behind him in Chris Eberly and sophomores Chafie Fields and Cordell Mitchell.

Jason Sload returns at fullback. He is used mostly for blocking.

At receiver, Joe Jurevicius eased the loss of the Bobby Engram-Freddie Scott tandem by catching 41 passes for 869 yards and four scores. He is a big-play pass-catcher.

Joe Nastasi has dibs on the flanker job, with Corey Jones and Kenny Watson pushing hard.

For the second straight year more than half the offensive line must be replaced. Guard Phil Ostrowski and mammoth tackle John Blick are the holdovers. Kevin Conlin started five games at guard and moves to center.

Another returnee is guard Brad Jones, who started the 1996 opener.

Five impact players are gone from a defense that ranked 13th nationally in scoring defense (15.7 points a game). However, the only loss from the front four was Noble, the team MVP. Penn State should have the most athletic and talented defensive unit in its five-year Big Ten era.

Certain regulars are tackle Matt Fornadel and end Chris Snyder. With Brandon Short probably moving to inside linebacker, Brad Scioli, who missed the entire 1996 season after suffering a knee injury in the spring, is a likely starter at either end or tackle.

Mike Buzin and Floyd Wedderburn and sophomores David Fleischhauer and Imani Bell could figure prominently at tackle, while junior Clint Seace and promising sophomore Courtney Brown will contribute at end.

There should be no drop-off at Linebacker U. Outside linebackers Aaron Collins and Jim Nelson are all-star candidates, with Short moving into the middle after a team-high 12 tackles for loss last season. Short takes over for the graduated Gerald Filardi, last year's leading tackler.

Senior Ahmad Collins and sophomores Aaron Gatten and Mac Morrison are returning lettermen at the outside positions, with sophomore Maurice Daniels inside.

**1/2** The portion of games in Penn State history in which Joe Paterno has either been an assistant coach or the head man. The Nittany Lions have played 1,044 games in 110 years and Paterno has coached in 522 of them.

A late-season injury to All-American Brian Miller enabled cornerback Shino Prater to crack the starting lineup. The only full-time returning regular is hero (strong safety) Shawn Lee. The return of senior Jason Collins, Aaron's brother, who started the first three games of 1995 before a broken leg sidelined him is a big boost for an otherwise young secondary. Collins was granted a sixth year of eligibility.

Anthony King and David Macklin and Chris Alston will vie for the other cornerback spot. Askari Adams and Matt Joyner, the son of former Penn State All-American Dave Joyner, will compete at free safety.

Penn State lost outstanding placekicker Brett Conway, the No. 2 scorer in school history. He likely will be succeeded by Travis Forney. Pat Pidgeon is the new punter. He kicked 17 times for a 38.4-yard average in '96.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

**WR** **83 Joe Jurevicius (Sr., 3)**; 22 Kenny Watson (So., 1)
**LT** 51 Eric Cole (So., 1); 65 Rich Stankewicz (So.,0)
**LG** **64 Phil Ostrowski (Sr., 1)**; 50 Gabe Tincher (So., 1)
**C** 59 Kevin Conlin (Sr., 1); 65 Rich Stankewicz (So.,0)
**RG** 63 Brad Jones (Sr., 1); 77 Chance Bright (So., 0)
**RT** **78 John Blick (So., 0)**; 60 Ryan Fagan (Jr., 0)
**TE** 82 Cuncho Brown (Jr., 2); 80 Bob Stephenson (Sr., 2)
**QB** 9 Mike McQueary (Sr., 1); 16 Kevin Thompson (So., 0)
**FB** **15 Jason Sload (Sr., 2)**; 25 Aaron Harris (So., 1)
**TB** **39 Curtis Enis (Jr., 2)**; 23 Chris Eberly (Jr., 2)
**WR** **21 Joe Nastasi (Jr., 2)**; 12 Corey Jones (So., 1)
**K** 17 Travis Fortney (So., 0)

### DEFENSE (7)

**DE** **91 Chris Snyder (Sr., 3)**; 86 Courtney Brown (So., 1)
**DT** **99 Matt Fornadel (Sr., 3)**; 90 Floyd Wedderburn (Jr., 0)
**DT** 76 Mike Buzin (Jr., 1); 73 Imani Bell (So., 0)
**DE** 5 Brad Scioli (Jr., 2); 35 Clint Seace (Jr., 1)
**LB** **6 Aaron Collins (Sr., 3)**; 31 Mac Morrison (So., 1)
**LB** **43 Brandon Short (So., 1)**; 52 Maurice Daniels (So., 1)
**LB** **44 Jim Nelson (Sr., 2)**; 40 Aaron Gatten (So., 1)
**CB** 19 Anthony King (So., 1); 27 David Macklin (So., 1)
**CB** **1 Shino Prater (Sr., 3)**; 7 Chris Alston (Sr., 0)
**SS** **24 Shawn Lee (Jr., 2)**; 8 Jason Collins (Sr., 1)
**FS** 18 Askari Adams (So., 1); 26 Matt Joyner (Jr., 1)
**P** 41 Pat Pidgeon (So., 0)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

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# North Carolina Tar Heels

**Head Coach** .....Mack Brown
**1996 Record (ACC)**.....10–2 (6–2)
**1997 Prediction** .....1st ACC
**Home Field**.....Kenan Stadium (60,000)

Conventional wisdom says this is the year North Carolina stands up and challenges Florida State for leadership of the ACC.

The reasons are clear: (1) The Tar Heels lost a cliff-hanging 13–0 game at Tallahassee last year and get the Seminoles at home this fall, (2) they held the ACC champs to their lowest offensive total in '96 and (3) they have two of the conference's best quarterbacks.

Dré Bly

Tim O'Dell

North Carolina coach Mack Brown plays down such talk.

"We're still chasing Florida State," he says.

In Chris Keldorf, the Tar Heels welcome back the ACC's most efficient quarterback. His 201 completions and 23 touchdowns are school records. At 6–5, 250 pounds, he is a classic dropback passer and surprisingly mobile for his size. After he suffered a serious ankle injury in the first quarter of the finale against archrival Duke, Oscar Davenport stepped in without missing a beat and led the Heels to a 27–10 win. He followed that with an impressive performance in directing the Tar Heels to a 20–13 decision over West Virginia in the Gator Bowl, assuring them of a Top 10 finish.

You don't lose a runner the caliber of Leon Johnson and not suffer a huge vacuum in your running game.

The prime candidates at tailback are Jonathan Linton and Mike Geter, while Deon Dyer, a hitter from the special teams, and redshirt freshman Ronnie Robinson, along with junior Jamie Carrick, a converted linebacker, are the fullbacks.

Until Carolina finds the right combination at running back, look for a high-octane air game to fill the void. Much of Keldorf's success must be attributed to three explosive receivers: Na Brown and L.C. Stevens, and Octavus Barnes.

It is generally conceded that Brown has the finest set of hands on the squad, enabling him to make acrobatic plays that are impossible for others. Stevens, the tallest at 6–5, excels in turning short or intermediate passes into long gainers. His 17.5 yards-per-catch average was second-best in the ACC. Barnes, who had 53 receptions in '95, came back from knee surgery to make 23 grabs.

Senior center Jeff Saturday, one of seven Tar Heel All-ACC choices and an All-America candidate, led an offensive unit that averaged 30 points and set numerous passing records. Saturday is equally adept at run or pass blocking.

Taking three-point stances on the depleted left side of Saturday will be a couple of talented seniors, tackle Ryan Hoffman and guard Mike Hobgood. The right side will be manned by sophomore guard Joe Ellison and senior tackle Mike Baxter.

The leader along the defensive front is 6–6, 265-pound senior defensive end Greg Ellis, the latest in a Baby Blue line of defensive superstars the likes of Lawrence Taylor and Marcus Jones. With 23½ career sacks, Ellis is a cinch to break Jones' all-time record of 24. The two-time All-ACC lineman also has career numbers of 157 tackles, 11 passes broken up, 51 pressures and 32 stops behind the line.

Along with Ellis, Russell Davis and Vonnie Holliday are back in the front four. Mike Pringley moves up to replace Rick Terry. Only Ellis (62) had more tackles than Holliday (47) among returning linemen.

It seems great linebacking genes run in branches of the Simmons families. Clemson and Florida State have had All-America Simmonses, and now North Carolina has its own: Brian Simmons, a second-team All-American and, at 6–4, 230, one of the top NFL prospects in the country.

Like Lawrence Taylor, Simmons is blessed with speed, strength, agility, field sense and tenacity. Figures tell the story: 221 career tackles, eight sacks, six interceptions. If opponents decide to avoid Simmons and attack the middle, they'll run into the team's leading tackler, all-star Kivuusama Mays.

> **4** For the fourth straight season, North Carolina swept its in-state ACC rivals: Duke, N.C. State and Wake Forest.

A bumper crop of defensive backs is growing in Chapel Hill, and "growing" is the right word. A mere kid, cornerback Dré Bly leads the group. His incredible 11 interceptions as a freshman led the nation and earned him All-America honors.

The Tar Heel secondary — Bly and Robert Williams in the corners, Omar Brown and Greg Williams at the safeties — picked off 20 passes and gave up only seven touchdown aerials. Their secret: quickness and speed. Brown and Greg Williams are also punishing hitters.

Kicker Josh McGee scored 63 points on nine field goals. Six of his eight misses were from 40 or more yards out. Punter Derrick DePriest had a respectable 38.6-yard average, but four were blocked.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | **5 L.C. Stevens (Jr., 2)**; 1 Chuckie Parquet (Jr., 2) |
| LT | 79 Ryan Hoffman (Sr., 2); 77 John Surigao (Jr., 1) |
| LG | **61 Mike Hobgood (Sr., 3)**; 67 Jon Hall (So., 0) |
| C | **64 Jeff Saturday (Sr., 3)**; 77 John Surigao (Jr., 1) |
| RG | 56 Joe Ellison (So., 1); 76 Mike Gimbol (So., 0) |
| RT | **51 Mike Baxter (Sr., 3)**; 65 Kareem Ellis (So., 1) |
| TE | 82 Alge Crumpler (So., 1); 85 Allen Mogridge (So., 0) |
| QB | **15 Chris Keldorf (Sr., 3)**; 10 Oscar Davenport (Jr., 1) |
| FB | 38 Deon Dyer (So., 1); 32 Ronnie Robinson (Fr., 0) |
| TB | 27 Jonathan Linton (Sr., 3); 20 Mike Geter (Sr., 3) |
| FL | **18 Na Brown (Jr., 2)**; 4 Octavus Barnes (Sr., 3) |
| K | **37 Josh McGee (So., 1)** |

### DEFENSE (9)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | **87 Greg Ellis (Sr., 3)**; 98 Teto Simpson (Jr., 1) |
| DT | **90 Vonnie Holliday (Sr., 3)**; 84 Nate Hobgood-Chittick (Sr., 1) |
| DT | **96 Russell Davis (Jr., 1)**; 78 Marcus Dow (Jr., 1) |
| DE | 91 Mike Pringley (Jr., 2); 81 Ebenezer Ekuban (Jr., 2) |
| LB | 9 Keith Newman (Jr., 2); 44 Brandon Spoon (So., 1) |
| LB | **53 Kivuusama Mays (Sr., 3)**; 49 Jamie Carrick (Jr., 2) |
| LB | **41 Brian Simmons (Sr., 3)**; 7 Mark Dunn (Jr. , 1) |
| CB | **31 Dré Bly (So., 1)**; 24 Reggie Love (Sr., 3) |
| CB | **29 Robert Williams (Jr., 2)**; 25 Terry Billups (Sr., 3) |
| SS | **3 Greg Williams (Sr., 2)**; 21 Jomo Legins (Jr., 2) |
| FS | **2 Omar Brown (Sr., 3)**; 16 Darien Johnson (Jr., 0) |
| P | **33 Derrick DePriest (So., 1)** |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

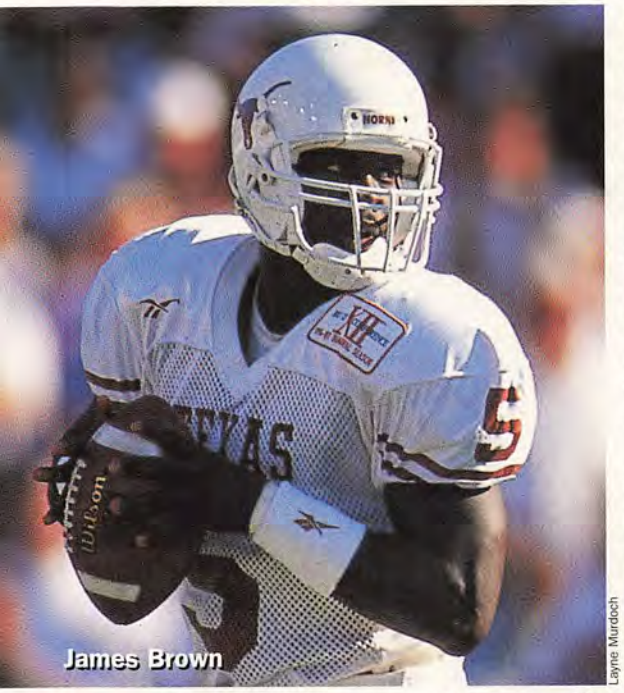
# Texas Longhorns

**Head Coach** .....**John Mackovic**
**1996 Record (Big 12)** ....**8–5 (7–2)**
**1997 Prediction** .....**1st Big 12 South**
**Home Field**.....**Memorial Stadium (75,512)**

**4**

Many people in the Lone Star State recognize the Texas two-step as a country and western dance. It is also a fairly accurate description of the Longhorns' 1996 breakthrough-breakdown season.

Each time Texas took two steps toward becoming a national power again, it immediately took one step back. The Longhorns whipped archrival Texas A&M 51–15 but couldn't beat previously winless Oklahoma. They shocked Nebraska to win the Big 12 championship but collapsed against Penn State in the second half of the Fiesta Bowl.


James Brown

Layne Murdoch

"We did some great things, but we kept (negating) things with mistakes," senior quarterback James Brown says.

If Texas can fill gaping holes in the secondary, the Longhorns have enough returning strengths to contend for their second consecutive conference title.

"The whole key is consistency," junior tailback Ricky Williams says. "We know we're the best team in the Big 12; we just have to prove it every week."

Brown is not one of the strongest passers in the nation. He may not even be one of the best runners. But when you combine all his tools and intangibles, Brown is one of the most dangerous quarterbacks anywhere.

Brown reads defenses well and can think on the run as well as anyone. "James is one of the best big-play quarterbacks in college football," coach John Mackovic says. "Everyone who plays against us recognizes that he is a force in the game. He is a difference-maker."

Williams, who will move from fullback to tailback, is one of the most dominant runners in the country, combining wrecking-ball power with outstanding speed (4.49 in the 40). Williams rushed 205 times for 1,272 yards in 1996. Remarkably, 869 of those yards were gained after the first contact.

Seniors Gerrod Coleman and Jeffrey Clayton, who redshirted last year, are battling for the fullback assignment.

Texas' all-time leading receiver, Mike Adams, is gone. Fortunately junior Wane McGarity established himself as a big-time threat, scoring four touchdowns in the final six games.

Although Texas loses two-time, All-America tight end Pat Fitzgerald, the position appears to be in good hands with the return of fifth-year senior Steve Bradley and juniors Derek Lewis and Derrick Scott. None of the three can match Fitzgerald's pass-catching ability, however.

By the end of last season, Texas' offensive line had become one of the strongest units in the country. This year, the Horns could be even better. The loss of All-America guard Dan Neil will hurt, but four starters return: senior center Ryan Fiebiger, junior tackles Octavious Bishop and Jay Humphrey, and junior guard Ben Adams. Sophomore Roger Roesler appears to be a strong replacement for Neil.

With a young defensive line in 1996, Texas had problems stopping the run. But that could change dramatically. Senior tackle Chris Akins may be the strongest man in college football, with a 556-pound bench press and a 760-pound squat. "I think in Chris, we have one of the best all-around defensive linemen in the country," says Mackovic.

Sophomore tackle Casey Hampton, who recorded 73 tackles, is another strong presence in the middle.

Texas returns to the 4–3 alignment and the Horns seem to have a surplus of talented linebackers in place. Sophomore Aaron Humphrey, the 1996 Big 12 Defensive Newcomer of the Year, and junior Dusty Renfro are strong tacklers in the middle.

Seniors Dwight Kirkpatrick and Kyle Richardson are outstanding athletes on the outside and are particularly dangerous against the pass.

**3** With its win over Nebraska in the Big 12 championship game, Texas claimed its third straight conference title for the first time since 1971-73. The Longhorns won or shared the 1994-95 SWC titles.

Without a doubt, the secondary is Mackovic's primary concern. The Horns lose four starters from a year ago who combined to start 137 games in their careers.

Junior cornerback Tony Holmes is expected to challenge for one starting spot. Anton Hector, Quinton Wallace, Levar Jenkins and former running back Chris Butcher will battle for the other corner. Redshirt freshman Donald McCowen and sophomore Aaron Babino bring tremendous speed to the safety positions.

Texas could rely heavily on true freshmen, having signed an impressive group of defensive backs in February.

With the return of All-America senior placekicker Phil Dawson and steady senior punter Mark Schultis, the Longhorns have one of the best kicking games in the country. One of the leading clutch kickers in the nation, Dawson has six career field goals of 50 yards or more.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | 6 Mike Scarborough (Jr., 2); 80 Dustin Armstrong (So., 1) |
| LT | **75 Octavious Bishop (Jr., 2)**; 70 Mike Garcia (Fr., 0) |
| LG | 72 Roger Roesler (So., 1); 65 Travis Wood (Jr., 2) |
| C | **58 Ryan Fiebiger (Sr., 3)**; 54 Russell Gaskamp (Jr., 1) |
| RG | **79 Ben Adams (Jr., 2)**; 74 Joe Hubbard (Fr., 0) |
| RT | **67 Jay Humphrey (Jr., 2)**; 76 Brent Kelly (Sr., 2) |
| TE | 82 Derek Lewis (Jr., 2); 89 Steve Bradley (Sr., 3) |
| QB | **5 James Brown (Sr., 3)**; 10 Richard Walton (Jr., 2) |
| RB | **11 Ricky Williams (Jr., 2)**; 32 Jeffrey Clayton (Sr., 1) |
| FB | 29 Gerrod Coleman (Sr., 3); 32 Jeffrey Clayton (Sr., 1) |
| FL | 8 Wane McGarity (Jr., 2); 1 Bryan White (Jr., 2) |
| K | **4 Phil Dawson (Sr., 3)**; 13 Kris Stockton (So., 1) |

### DEFENSE (6)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | **95 Gray Mosier (Jr., 2)**; 52 Cedric Woodard (So., 1) |
| DT | **64 Casey Hampton (So., 1)**; 99 Derrick Curry (Fr., 0) |
| DT | **96 Chris Akins (Sr., 3)**; 97 Tim Warfield (Sr., 2) |
| DE | 91 Will Goodloe (So., 1); 92 Damon Luckett (So., 1) |
| LB | **45 Dwight Kirkpatrick (Sr., 3)**; 51 Brandon Nava (So., 1) |
| LB | **49 Aaron Humphrey (So., 1); 46 Dusty Renfro (Jr., 2)** |
| LB | 59 Kyle Richardson (Sr., 3); 55 Anthony Hicks (So., 0) |
| CB | 31 Tony Holmes (Jr., 2); 9 Quinton Wallace (Sr., 3) |
| CB | 28 Anton Hector (So., 1); 9 Quinton Wallace (Sr., 3) |
| SS | 38 Aaron Babino (So., 1); 13 Bryan Willingham (So., 0) |
| FS | 24 Donald McCowen (Fr., 0); 27 James Clark (Sr., 0) |
| P | **15 Mark Schultis (Sr., 2)**; 21 Jeff Baker (Fr., 0) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* **BOLD** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Florida Gators

**Head Coach** ..... **Steve Spurrier**
**1996 Record (SEC)** ..... **12–1 (8–0)**
**1997 Prediction** ..... **1st SEC East**
**Home Field**..... **Florida Field (83,600)**

The season had been over for nine days, yet Florida Field was packed with more than 65,000 fans paying homage to the first national championship team in University of Florida history.

In a list of thank-yous, Gators coach Steve Spurrier made special mention of the winningest senior class in school history. And not for the national title but rather for the four consecutive SEC crowns.

Jacquez Green

Andy Lyons/Allsport

Throughout the Gators' ascension to national prominence, Spurrier has insisted that SEC championships — even Eastern Division championships — are what drives his team. Florida has five division titles, compared to zero for the rest of the SEC East. Without a division crown, there can be no SEC crown. And without an SEC crown, there can be no national crown.

The SEC East Title is still the first goal and with a slew of newcomers at skill positions, primarily quarterback and receiver, some may consider Florida divisional underdogs to Peyton Manning and Tennessee.

It was 1993 the last time Florida entered a season with an unproven quarterback. Danny Wuerffel was a freshman and the Gators still won the SEC. This time, Spurrier's pupils will be even greener. Doug Johnson played sparingly as a freshman in 1996. His mechanics and athleticism are fine but his decision-making skills are unproven. He must learn fast, given Spurrier's penchant for perfection. Jesse Palmer, a heralded freshman from Canada, enrolled in the spring.

Florida returns its leading rusher but he'll be on defense. That's how deep the Gators are in the backfield. Spurrier moved tailback Elijah Williams to cornerback, basically anointing Fred Taylor with the starting spot.

Taylor has size and speed. But so does Terry Jackson, so Spurrier wants both of them in the backfield at the same time. They combined for more than 1,000 yards rushing and 13 touchdowns.

When Reidel Anthony and Ike Hilliard opted for the NFL, it made for an open invitation for top receiver prospects to come to Gainesville. Some did. Prep All-Americans Steve Shipp of Charlotte, and Darrell Jackson of Tampa, were two of the five who signed with the Gators. Jackson caught 191 passes for 4,594 yards and 50 TDs in his prep career. They will compete for playing time against a relatively inexperienced group.

The leader is Jacquez Green, who has 52 catches for 1,157 yards and 14 TDs in two seasons as a backup. But at 5–9 and 163 pounds, Green may not be the sort of primary target for an inexperienced quarterback.

Injuries forced Florida to start six combinations on the offensive line. The lack of consistency and a season-ending injury to senior Jeff Mitchell were sorely evident when Florida State roughed up Wuerffel in the Seminoles' victory at Tallahassee.

But something happened between that Nov. 30 loss and the Jan. 2 blowout in the Sugar Bowl: The Gators got healthy, and better. Wyley Ritch became an effective shotgun snapper and played solidly in Mitchell's stead.

Tackles Zach Piller and Mo Collins must be considered all-star candidates. Ryan Kalich was inconsistent at left guard, but started all 13 games, while Corey Yarbrough had five starts. Both should be more seasoned and effective as sophomores. Tackles Ed Chester and Reggie McGrew were instrumental in holding Florida State to just 42 yards rushing in the Sugar Bowl. At the ends, Tim Beauchamp and Willie Cohens return.

Florida is loaded with hard-hitting playmakers at linebacker. Weak-side linebacker Johnny Rutledge, finished second on the team in tackles and joins strong-sider Mike Peterson as leaders of the unit. Dwayne Thomas will open in the middle.

**111** The lead in percentage points Steve Spurrier holds over Tennessee legend Robert Neyland for winningest coach in SEC history in conference games. Neyland went 62–15–5 (.787) during 14 seasons with the Volunteers. Spurrier is 53–6 (.898) in seven seasons.

The Gators lose three of four starters in the secondary. The one returnee is cornerback Fred Weary, a two-year starter who led the team with five interceptions. At the spot opposite Weary will be Williams, a gifted athlete, if he can make the switch from tailback and be ready by Sept. 20 for Tennessee.

Tony George is the heir to Lawrence Wright, the Thorpe Award winner as the nation's outstanding defensive back, and the strong safety spot. Junior Teako Brown, who started the first four games before a knee injury, will return at free safety.

Walk-on kicker Collins Cooper was forced into action last season and answered with a solid performance in the SEC Championship Game. Punter Robby Stevenson, who averaged 48.1 yards in the Suger Bowl, is back.

Kickoff and punt returner Green averaged 21.6 and 13.0 yards respectively.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

**WR** 5 Jacquez Green (Jr., 2); 18 Jamie Richardson (So., 1)
**LT** **69 Zach Piller (Jr., 1)**; 57 Scott Bryan (So., 1)
**LG** **51 Ryan Kalich (So., 1)**; 72 Deac Story (Jr., 2)
**C** 59 Wyley Ritch (Sr., 2); 74 Zac Zedalis (Fr.,0)
**RG** 62 Corey Yarbrough (So., 1); 77 Cheston Blackshear (So., 1)
**RT** **79 Mo Collins (Jr., 2)**; 70 Cooper Carlisle (So., 1)
**TE** 88 Taras Ross (Sr., 2); 89 Erron Kinney (So., 1)
**QB** 12 Doug Johnson (So., 1); Jesse Palmer (Fr., 0)
**FB** 22 Terry Jackson (Jr., 2); 35 Ernie Dubose (Sr., 2)
**TB** **21 Fred Taylor (Sr., 3)**; 32 Eugene McCaslin (So., 1)
**WR** 8 Nafis Karim (Jr., 2); 3 Travis McGriff (Jr., 2)
**K** 97 Collins Cooper (Jr., 1); 87 Robby Stevenson (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (8)

**DE** **93 Tim Beauchamp (Jr., 2)**; 54 Willie Rodgers (Sr., 2)
**DT** **94 Ed Chester (Jr., 2)**; 90 Mike Moten (Sr.,3)
**DT** **92 Reggie McGrew (So., 1)**; 66 Keith Council (Sr., 3)
**DE** **55 Willie Cohens (Jr., 2)**; 98 Anthony Mitchell (So., 1)
**LB** **29 Mike Peterson (Jr., 2)**; **42 Jevon Kearse (So., 1)**
**LB** 52 Dwayne Thomas (Sr., 2); 41 Keith Kelsey (So., 1)
**LB** **58 Johnny Rutledge (Jr., 2)**; 50 Kavin Walton (Sr., 3)
**CB** 25 Elijah Williams (Sr., 3); 10 Ronnie Battle (Sr., 2)
**CB** **24 Fred Weary (Sr., 3)**; 20 Tyrone Baker (Sr., 2)
**SS** 1 Tony George (Jr., 2); 26 Joe Xynidis (Sr., 2)
**FS** 33 Teako Brown (Jr., 2); 13 Mike Harris (Sr., 3)
**P** **87 Robby Stevenson (Jr., 2)**

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

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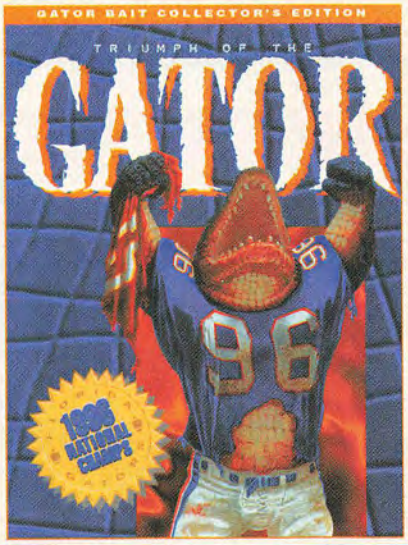


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# Nebraska Cornhuskers

**Head Coach** .....Tom Osborne
**1996 Record (Big 12)** ....11–2 (8–1)
**1997 Prediction** .....2nd Big 12
**Home Field**.....Memorial Stadium (72,700)



Nebraska fans who chose not to make the trip to the Orange Bowl last season expect to return to Miami for the Bowl Alliance's national championship game.

However, the standard by which Tom Osborne's program is perceived must change drastically after the national championships in 1994 and 1995. Cornhusker followers, remindful of their title-winning bowl victories in the two previous seasons, stayed away in droves from the 41–21 Orange Bowl victory against Virginia Tech last Dec. 31. After their team's astonishing 19–0 loss to Arizona State last September and a 37–27 defeat at the hands of Texas in the inaugural Big 12 title game in December, Nebraska fans are not in a mood for anything short of a return to another battle for an uncontested national crown.

Grant Wistrom
Courtland Richards

In many ways, Nebraska's 1996 football season was the story of one player: quarterback Scott Frost, now a senior.

The considerable burden of two losses and the failure to win a third national championship was put on his shoulders. Despite the pressure, Frost was the Big 12 Offensive Newcomer of the Year.

Frost passed for 1,440 yards and 13 touchdowns, with only three interceptions. His passing statistics ranked among the best in school history, which probably says as much about Nebraska's offensive philosophy as it does about Frost's ability.

Passing statistics notwithstanding, Frost is much more of a threat running the ball than throwing it. Frost's decision-making improved as the season progressed and he was less susceptible to mental lapses. He should benefit from the hard times.

I-back Ahman Green's sophomore season at Nebraska was slowed by injuries in 1996. If he stays healthy, he could be headed for the NFL.

Sophomore DeAngelo Evans rushed for 776 yards, the third-highest total by a Cornhusker freshman and second on the team to Green's 917 yards. Evans was hampered by a deep groin problem late in the campaign and was at less than full speed for spring practice. His health is a significant concern.

Junior Joel Makovicka, a walk-on, alternated at fullback, starting one game. He does what Nebraska asks of its fullbacks: accept the anonymity of blocking for the I-backs.

The leading receiver among the returnees is senior tight end Vershan Jackson, who caught 13 passes for a total of 220 yards and four touchdowns.

When senior Aaron Taylor was moved from guard to fill a void at center last season, Osborne was concerned that an outstanding guard had been turned into an average center. Even so, Taylor was a consensus All-American. The emergence of junior Josh Heskew at center has enabled Taylor to return to guard. The other three interior starters are seniors: tackles Eric Anderson and Fred Pollack, and guard Jon Zatecha.

Grant Wistrom's decision not to submit his name for the NFL draft following his junior season significantly improved Nebraska's chances of making a run at another national title. Wistrom, an All-American at defensive end, is an exceptional pass rusher with size, speed and intelligence.

Senior tackle Jason Peter and Wistrom "can raise the level of the whole defense," says defensive coordinator Charlie McBride.

All three linebackers must be replaced. Junior Jay Foreman alternated in the middle last season after starting every game at strong-side linebacker as a redshirt freshman.

Senior Octavious McFarlin was moved from rover to weak-side linebacker near the last season, though he could be pushed aside by junior Eric Johnson.

**.828** Tom Osborne's winning percentage (242–49–3) going into his 25th season as Nebraska's coach. That's the best among active NCAA Division I-A football coaches and sixth all-time.

The secondary must be rebuilt around sophomore cornerback Ralph Brown, the third Husker defensive starter from 1996. As a true freshman in 1996, Brown was named Big 12 Defensive Newcomer of the Year.

Sophomore Jerome Peterson, a backup last season, was the most improved player in the secondary in the spring and earned the No. 1 spot on the other side. Senior Eric Warfield is an aggressive hitter at free safety.

Jesse Kosch set a school record, averaging 44.7 yards per punt to rank third in the conference and 11th nationally. Nebraska ranked eighth in the nation in net punting. Junior Kris Brown is a two-year starter as the placekicker.

Evans will return kickoffs, and McFarlin will bring back punts.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

**SE** 89 Jeff Lake (Sr., 3); 6 Kenny Cheatham (Jr., 2)
**LT** 73 Fred Pollack (Sr., 3); 69 Adam Julch (So., 1)
**LG** **67 Aaron Taylor (Sr., 3)**; 63 James Sherman (So., 1)
**C** 59 Josh Heskew (Jr., 2); 52 Matt Baldwin (So., 0)
**RG** **64 Jon Zatechka (Sr., 3)**; 62 Matt Hoskinson (Sr., 2)
**RT** **70 Eric Anderson (Sr., 3)**; 68 Jeff Clausen (So., 1)
**TE** **90 Tim Carpenter (Sr., 3)**; 34 Vershan Jackson (Sr., 2)
**QB** **7 Scott Frost (Sr., 1)**; 1 Frankie London (So., 1)
**FB** 45 Joel Makovicka (Jr., 2); 40 Billy Legate (Jr., 2)
**IB** **30 Ahman Green (Jr., 2)**; 4 DeAngelo Evans (So., 1)
**WB** 5 Shevin Wiggins (Jr., 1); 14 Lance Brown (Jr., 2)
**K** **35 Kris Brown (Jr., 2)**; 13 Ted Retzlaff (Sr., 2)

### DEFENSE (3)

**LR** 57 Chad Kelsay (Jr., 2); 84 Mike Rucker (Jr., 2)
**DT** 99 Jason Wiltz (Jr., 1); 96 Steve Warren (So., 1)
**DT** **55 Jason Peter (Sr., 3)**; 95 Derek Allen (So., 1)
**RR** **98 Grant Wistrom (Sr., 3)**; 92 Travis Toline (Jr., 2)
**SAM** 46 Brian Shaw (So., 1); 37 Tony Ortiz (So., 1)
**MIKE** 44 Jay Foreman (Jr., 2); 50 Julius Jackson (So., 1)
**WILL** 4 Octavious McFarlin (Sr., 3); 1 Eric Johnson (Jr., 1)
**CB** 2 Leslie Dennis (Sr., 3); 11 Jerome Peterson (So., 1)
**CB** **22 Ralph Brown (So., 1)**; 30 Josh Anderson (Fr., 0)
**SS** 21 Mike Brown (So., 1); 29 Gregg List (So., 1)
**FS** 3 Eric Warfield (Sr., 2); 19 Clint Finley (Fr., 0)
**P** **19 Jesse Kosch (Sr., 2)**; 23 Bill Lafleur (Jr., 2)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* **BOLD** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

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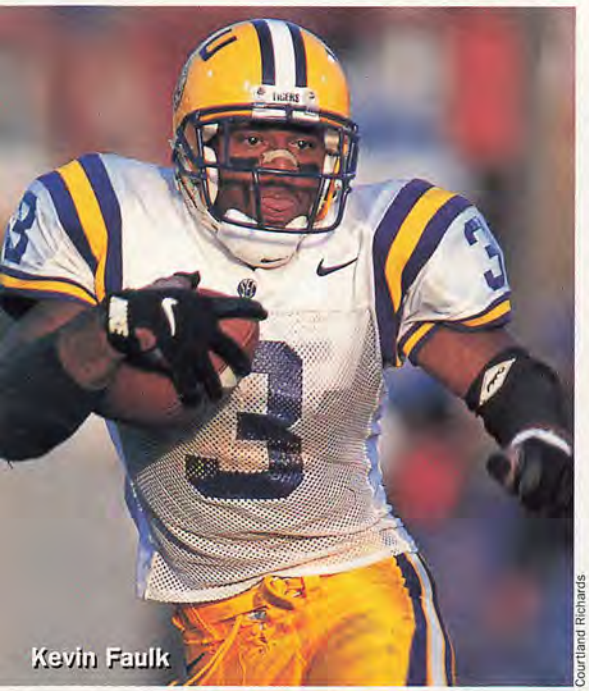
# LSU Tigers

**Head Coach .....Gerry DiNardo**
**1996 Record (SEC) .....10–2 (6–2)**
**1997 Prediction .....1st SEC West**
**Home Field.....Tiger Stadium (79,940)**

Forget five-year plans. LSU coach Gerry DiNardo has proven that you don't need such timetables to turn around a struggling program.

Last season, just two years after the Tigers had suffered through their sixth straight losing season, DiNardo guided LSU to a 10–2 record, a piece of the SEC's Western Division title and a second straight bowl victory.


Kevin Faulk

Courtland Richards

But he doesn't want to stop there. Despite the fact the Tigers don't have a big gun at quarterback, LSU is ready to take the next step: an outright division title and trip to the SEC championship game.

They could do it this season with 36 lettermen, eight starters on offense, seven on defense, all kickers, and kickoff/punt returner Kevin Faulk returning.

Though he's 13–2 as a starter and ranked third in the SEC in passing efficiency, there's always a nagging question about Tigers' quarterback Herb Tyler. He seems to come up empty against the league's better defenses because of his scattershot arm and his tendency to rattle under pressure. Still, the junior's track record gives him the job.

Junior tailback Faulk will likely be a first-round NFL draft choice next year. Not only is Faulk slippery, but he also has breakaway speed that helped him gain 1,282 yards and score 13 touchdowns. He's also a great return man, as evidenced by his school-record 376 all-purpose yards against Houston.

The Tigers may have the best backs in the league. Sophomore Rondell Mealey, Faulk's backup, ran for 603 yards and 10 touchdowns. Junior Kendall Cleveland, who ran for almost 600 yards as Faulk's backup two years ago, is a capable tailback.

There are many question marks at receiver. Larry Foster showed considerable skill and was named to the SEC's All-Freshman team with 26 catches for 446 yards and four touchdowns. But while he makes the difficult grabs look easy, it's the easy catches that sometimes befuddle him.

Tyrone Frazier, another sophomore who averaged almost 20 yards per catch on 17 receptions, is coming off a knee injury. True freshman Abram Booty reported in the spring and showed a penchant for getting open and hanging on to the ball.

Senior Furnell Hankton and sophomore Jamal Pack are serviceable tight ends but don't come close to replacing departed NFL first-round draft choice David LaFleur.

Depth is a concern on the offensive line, but three starters return in guards Adam Perry, a senior, and junior Alan Faneca (a first-team All-SEC choice), and junior center Todd McClure.

The defensive line could be the best front four in the league. All four starters return, including All-SEC tackles Chuck Wiley, a senior, and junior Anthony McFarland, and all are capable of making momentum-changing plays. Wiley had six sacks and 14 tackles behind the line last year en route to a 93-tackle season. McFarland had 63 tackles, 14 tackles behind the line and one sack.

The ends are also tough to get around. Sophomore Theo Williams was on the SEC All-Freshman team after starting nine games and making 29 tackles. On the other end, senior Mike Sutton moved into the starting lineup in the fourth game and finished with 53 tackles, six sacks and eight tackles behind the line.

DiNardo is trying to replace two starting linebackers, but spring practice didn't solve much. Starting middle linebacker Charles Smith, selected to the SEC All-Freshman team last year after making 60 tackles, struggled to maintain his job in the spring against sophomore Monte Gatlin. The most impressive linebacker of the spring may have been junior Aaron Adams, who graded out high in scrimmages.

Starting strong safety Greg Hill's suspension from the team has forced some adjustments. Junior Chris Beard, a receiver in his first two seasons, filled Hill's vacancy in the spring. Beard, who played strong safety in high school, seems comfortable in his new role. At free safety is Mark Roman, the SEC's Freshman Defensive Player of the Year, with 74 tackles and a team-high four interceptions.

Senior cornerback Cedric Donaldson showed a knack for making big plays. Former receiver Chris Cummings, a junior, may emerge as the other starting cornerback on the basis of his 10.18 speed in the 100 meters.

**11–0** The Tigers' record in games in which tailback Kevin Faulk has rushed for 100 or more yards.

It's amazing that senior Wade Richey still has the placekicking job. He was 5-for-12 and didn't appear to be much better in spring work as he consistently hooked his kicks. Sophomore kickoff man Danny Boyd could displace Richey, but Boyd didn't look that hot in the spring, either. The only constant in the kicking game is senior punter Chad Kessler, who was All-SEC two years ago and has a 40.9 yards per kick career average.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

**SE 13 Tyrone Frazier (So., 1)**; 33 Nemessis Bates (So., 0)
**LT** 71 Al Jackson (So., 0); 60 Ryan Hebert (So., 0)
**LG 76 Adam Perry (Sr., 3)**; 65 Ryan Thomassie (Jr., 2)
**C 72 Todd McClure (Jr., 2)**; 79 Naeshall Menard (So., 0)
**RG 66 Alan Faneca (Jr., 2)**; 67 Alvin Puckett (Fr., 0)
**RT** 75 Trey Langley (Fr., 0); 54 Lee Stromberg (Jr., 0)
**TE** 87 Furnell Hankton (Sr., 1); 81 Jamal Pack (So., 1)
**QB 14 Herb Tyler (Jr., 1)**; 6 Bryan Sparacino (Sr., 1)
**TB 3 Kevin Faulk (Jr., 2)**; 7 Rondell Mealey (So., 1)
**FB 44 Robert Tyler (So., 1)**; 30 John Christ (So., 0)
**FL 22 Larry Foster (So., 1)**; 5 Yahmani Adams (Sr., 1)
**K 1 Wade Richey (Sr., 3)**; 83 Danny Boyd (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (7)

**DE 93 Theo Williams (So., 1)**; 98 Arnold Miller (Jr., 2)
**DT 55 Chuck Wiley (Sr., 3)**; Jason Engels (So., 0)
**DT 94 Anthony McFarland (Jr., 2)**; 95 Johnny Mitchell (So., 1)
**DE 90 Mike Sutton (Sr., 1)**; 92 Roshaun Matthews (So., 0)
**SLB** 37 Aaron Adams (Jr., 2); 45 Jamal Hill (Fr., 0)
**MLB 35 Charles Smith (So., 1)**; 38 Monte Gatlin (So., 1)
**WLB** 48 Joe Wesley (Jr., 2); 42Markeith Spears (Jr., 2)
**CB** 19 Chris Cummings (Jr., 2); 4 Nate Gates (Fr., 0)
**CB 27 Cedric Donaldson (Sr., 1)**; 2 Brandon Dale (Fr., 0)
**SS** 24 Chris Beard (Jr., 2); 9 Clifton White (So., 0)
**FS 8 Mark Roman (So., 1)**; 18 Clarence LeBlanc (So., 1)
**P 80 Chad Kessler (Sr., 3)**; 23 Jeremy Witten (So., 0)

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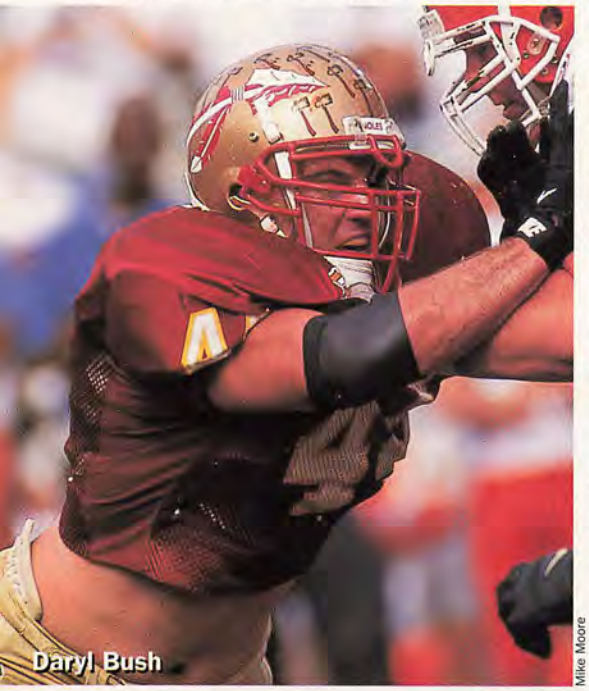
# Florida State Seminoles

Head Coach .....Bobby Bowden
1996 Record (ACC).....11–1 (8–0)
1997 Prediction .....2nd ACC
Home Field.....Doak Campbell Stadium (77,500)

If you think of offense when you think of Florida State, think again. "We relied on our defense to win games last year, and they did that," says coach Bobby Bowden.

The offense left something to be desired (No. 30 nationally), but the Seminoles led the nation in rushing defense (59.0 yards a game), finished in the top six in all four major defensive categories and were ranked No. 1 until Florida wiped them out in the Sugar Bowl.


Daryl Bush

Mike Moore

The 1997 edition returns just six starters on offense and five on defense. "Fewer starters than we've had in a long time," Bowden says. The Seminoles face a schedule that includes trips to USC, Clemson, Virginia, North Carolina and Florida.

Offensive coordinator Mark Richt said the Sugar Bowl would "go a long way in deciding how (Thad Busby's) career is going to go for us. If he plays a great game, I think he really solidifies himself as our starter. If he has a poor game, in the spring there'll be some competition."

Competition it is. Busby, a senior, completed just 17 of 41 passes for 271 yards and a touchdown in Florida State's 52–20 loss to Florida. There's no shortage of challengers: sophomore Dan Kendra, redshirt freshman Marcus Outzen and 24-year-old freshman Chris Weinke, a prep All-American from St. Paul, Minn., who originally signed with FSU in 1990 but elected to play baseball after being drafted by the Toronto Blue Jays.

Busby was no Danny Kanell, although he threw for 1,866 yards and 16 touchdowns. When Busby was sidelined with an injury, the 238-pound Kendra passed for 281 yards and three touchdowns in a 44–7 rout of Wake Forest. Neither Busby nor Kendra will have running plays designed for them. Both are pure dropback passers, but Kendra is the better runner of the two, and his linebacker mentality provides the offense with an added dimension.

Warrick Dunn is done after three 1,000-yard seasons and a school-record 3,959 yards. Rock Preston, the heir apparent after rushing for 386 yards on just 49 carries, is ineligible, leaving junior Dee Feaster (20 rushes, 60 yards, 41 of them on one run) as the only veteran.

Feaster's competition will come from redshirt freshman Vannez Gooch and true freshman Travis Minor, one of the nation's marquee prepsters.

While the tailbacks will be inexperienced, the fullback position is three-deep in veteran players. Senior Pooh Bear Williams (292 pounds) and junior Khalid Abdullah cleared the way for Dunn most of last season, and junior Lamarr Glenn made a push for playing time late in the year.

Senior flanker E.G. Green is the main ingredient in a potent passing attack. Green averaged 19.5 yards per reception (34 catches, 662 yards, seven touchdowns) and has caught a pass in 27 straight games. Sophomore Laveranues Coles, a converted tailback, is now at split end.

Sophomore Peter Warrick debuted with a team-leading 21.2-yard average on 22 catches.

Senior Melvin Pearsall returns at tight end, and Bowden plans to use him more as a receiver than he has in the past.

Senior center Kevin Long, an All-America candidate, is the only returning full-time starter on the offensive line, although senior Tra Thomas started the last four games at tackle. The other projected starters are sophomore tackle Larry Smith, a converted defensive end; sophomore guard Jason Whitaker, a three-game starter; and redshirt freshman guard Donald Heaven.

The Seminoles lost a pair of All-America ends (Peter Boulware and Reinard Wilson, a combined 69 career sacks), but look for senior Andre Wadsworth to contend for postseason honors. Senior Greg Spires, who can play anywhere along the line, excels at rushing the passer and takes over at the other end.

Senior Julian Pittman, a tenacious run-stuffer and aggressive pass rusher, moves up at nose guard.

**10** The record number of consecutive years Florida State has won at least 10 games and finished in the Associated Press top four.

Senior Daryl Bush, a four-year starter at middle linebacker, is the leader of the defense and will get plenty of help on the weak side from senior Sam Cowart, who led the team with 115 tackles in 1995, then sat out last season recuperating after reconstructive knee surgery.

The secondary should be strong up the middle with the return of senior rover Shevin Smith and junior free safety Dexter Jackson.

Sebastian Janikowski played high school football for the first time last year in Daytona Beach and made field goals from 51, 53, 56 and 60 yards.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | 7 Laveranues Coles (So., 1); 80 Ron Dugans (Jr., 2) |
| LT | **70 Tra Thomas (Sr., 3)**; 76 Ross Brannon (Fr., 0) |
| LG | 68 Jason Whitaker (So., 1); 71 Jerry Carmichael (Fr., 0) |
| C | **51 Kevin Long (Sr., 3)**; 57 Eric Thomas (So., 1) |
| RG | 74 Donald Heaven (Fr., 0); 77 Jeremy Brett (So., 1) |
| RT | 99 Larry Smith (So., 1); 60 Tarlos Crumitie (Fr., 0) |
| TE | **81 Melvin Pearsall (Sr., 3)**; 84 Myron Jackson (Jr., 1) |
| QB | **12 Thad Busby (Sr., 3)**; 10 Dan Kendra (So., 1) |
| FB | **22 Pooh Bear Williams (Sr., 3)**; 32 Khalid Abdullah (Jr., 2) |
| TB | 33 Dee Feaster (Jr., 2); 20 Vannez Gooch (So., 0) |
| FL | **19 E.G. Green (Sr., 3)**; 9 Peter Warrick (So., 1) |
| K | 43 Bill Gramatica (Fr., 0) |

### DEFENSE (5)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | 90 Greg Spires (Sr.,3); 48 Bryne Malone (Fr., 0) |
| DT | 92 Jerry Johnson (So., 1); 53 Corey Simon (So., 0) |
| NG | 95 Julian Pittman (Sr., 3); 75 Billy Rhodes (Jr., 1) |
| DE | **85 Andre Wadsworth (Sr., 3)**; 56 Roland Seymour (Fr., 0) |
| LB | **1 Sam Cowart (Sr., 3)**; 5 Theon Rackley (So., 1) |
| LB | **44 Daryl Bush (Sr., 3)**; 49 Bobby Rhodes (So., 1) |
| LB | 45 Lamont Green (Jr., 2); 21 Deon Humphrey (Jr., 2) |
| CB | **2 Samari Rolle (Sr., 3)**; 27 Coronta Cody (Fr., 0) |
| CB | 4 Troy Saunders (Jr., 2); 15 Mario Edwards (Jr., 2) |
| SS | **30 Shevin Smith (Sr., 2)**; 6 Robert Hammond (Sr., 3) |
| FS | 11 Dexter Jackson (Jr., 2); 18 Sean Key (Jr., 2) |
| P | 3 Keith Cottrell (Fr., 0) |

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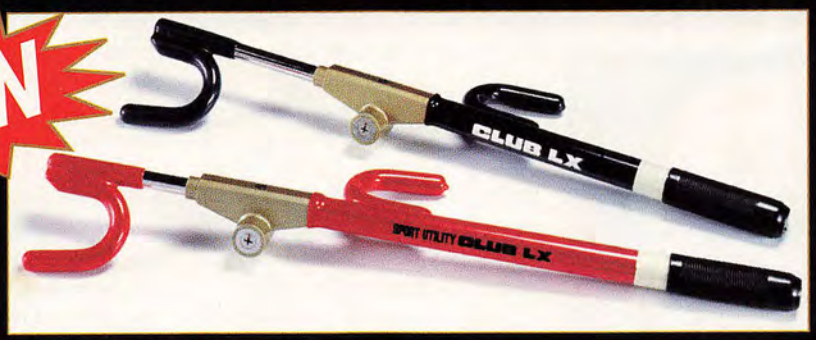


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# Tennessee Volunteers

**Head Coach .....Phillip Fulmer**
**1996 Record (SEC) .....10–2 (7–1)**
**1997 Prediction .....2nd SEC East**
**Home Field.....Neyland Stadium (102,544)**

Christmas came in March for Tennessee fans when Peyton Manning announced he would stick around for his senior season, passing up the NFL. That decision immediately pushed the team into national championship consideration.

Since his announcement, Manning has been asked repeatedly why he stayed. Each time, he has mentioned something about enjoying the college game, the college atmosphere and the college lifestyle.

Peyton Manning

Dwight King

Then he offers one other reason, "We have some unfinished business at Tennessee."

Manning says he is not driven by individual awards, but he enters the season as a clear front-runner for the Heisman. The offense is built around his passing skills.

The son of former All-American and All-Pro Archie Manning completed 63.9 percent of his passes last season, then hit 27-of-39 throws for 408 yards and four touchdowns in the Citrus Bowl blowout of Northwestern.

One objective for Manning is to reduce his interceptions. After being picked off just 10 times in his first two seasons combined, he was intercepted 12 times in 1996, including four against Florida. Manning was also sacked 17 times, which was indicative of both an increased reliance on the passing game and an inexperienced offensive line.

With Manning returning, Jeremaine Copeland, a junior, switched from quarterback to wide receiver, leaving sophomore Tee Martin as the backup.

Juniors Mark Levine and Shawn Bryson get first shots at running back, with Levine a half-step ahead based on his 4.7-yard average on 43 carries. Bryson had a good spring and is also a good blocker who could get some time at the short-handed fullback spot.

Sophomore Brian Darden has yet to show the ability that made him a blue-chip recruit two years ago. Now is his chance.

At fullback, look for junior college transfer Phillip Crosby to step in as a wide-body blocker.

As if losing second-round draft choice Joey Kent, who caught 150 passes in his career, weren't enough, the Vols suffered a huge blow in the spring game. Peerless Price, an emerging big-play threat suffered a broken ankle and will miss the season.

Senior Marcus Nash caught 53 balls, and is particularly effective on intermediate routes. He'll go over the middle, which makes him a favorite of Manning. Senior Andy McCullough, at 6–3, 201, is a big, fast target whose 24 catches included four scores. Copeland, now a full-time receiver, may be the best athlete on the team and a clutch receiver.

Sophomore Eric Diogu and redshirt freshman Neil Johnson are tight end candidates.

After encountering growing pains and injuries last season, the line earned high marks after the bowl win.

Junior Jarvis Reado is as good an offensive lineman as you'll find in the SEC. When he broke his leg last September and was out for the season, Tennessee lost both a quality pass protector and a run blocker. Reado is now back at full speed and should start at right tackle, with senior Robert Poole at left tackle.

The center and guard spots are filled with emerging talent. Senior Trey Teague was the Vols' most consistent lineman last year and can start at either guard or center. The guard delegation will come from a group of emerging prospects.

Senior Leonard Little, arguably the finest defensive player in the conference, is back from a torn ACL. The only question is whether he will play defensive end, outside linebacker, middle linebacker — or all three. He was limited to non-contact work in spring practice, but the Vols will move him all over the field so offenses must pay attention to his whereabouts.

Fellow senior Jonathan Brown, a part-time starter at defensive end, ranked second on the team in sacks. Sophomore Shaun Ellis is back after missing last year due to academics.

If Little plays middle linebacker, it solves the problem of replacing Tyrone Hines. If Little stays at defensive end or winds up at outside linebacker, look for Shawn Johnson or Antron Peebles to play in the middle.

Junior Al Wilson, whom Manning calls "one of the most phenomenal athletes I've ever seen," will start at one outside linebacker spot. He is a tenacious hitter.

**492** A number to be avoided by Tennessee. Last season, Peyton Manning threw for 492 yards against Florida, proving that extraordinary passing yardage usually comes with a loss.

Tennessee linebackers are undersized, but extremely fast, which is good for covering the pass but weak against quality running teams.

Senior Terry Fair is a fixture at right cornerback and is known for his one-on-one coverage ability though he is less efficient in run support. Tori Noel enters his senior season as a proven commodity at strong safety in the Vols' standard two-deep zone coverage.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

**WR 12 Marcus Nash (Sr., 3)**; 6 Jeremaine Copeland (Jr., 2)
**LT 67 Chad Clifton (So., 1)**; 77 Josh Tucker (So, 1)
**LG 68 Spencer Riley (So., 1)**; 54 Diron Robinson (Jr., 2)
**C 70 Trey Teague (Sr., 3)**; 59 Sam Pinner (Sr., 1)
**RG 75 Mercedes Hamilton (Jr., 2)**; 53 Toby Champion (Fr., 0)
**RT 65 Robert Poole (Sr., 3)**; 72 Jarvis Reado (Jr., 1)
**TE** 82 Eric Diogu (So., 1); 84 Neil Johnson (Fr., 0)
**QB 16 Peyton Manning (Sr., 3)**; 17 Tee Martin (So., 1)
**FB** 21 Phillip Crosby (Jr., 0); 48 Jeremy Fitzgerald (Jr., 0)
**TB** 19 Mark Levine (Jr., 2); 24 Shawn Bryson (Jr., 2);
**WR 88** Andy McCullough (Sr., 3); 81 Benjie Shuler (Sr., 3)
**K 4 Jeff Hall (Jr., 2)**; 21 Chris Hogue (Sr., 1)

### DEFENSE (7)

**DE 1 Leonard Little (Sr., 2)**; 93 Shaun Ellis (So., 0)
**LT 50 Bill Duff (Sr. 3)**; 40 Billy Ratliff (So., 1)
**RT** 97 Buck Buxton (Sr., 1); **55 Ron Green (Jr., 2)**
**DE 91 Jonathan Brown (Sr., 3)**; 22 Corey Terry (Jr., 1)
**LB 27 Al Wilson (Jr., 2)**; 42 Eric Westmoreland (So., 1)
**LB** 35 Shawn Johnson (So., 1); 99 Eric Brown (Sr., 1)
**LB** 46 Raynoch Thompson (So, 0); 56 Ayan Martin (Fr., 0)
**CB** 34 Steve Johnson (Jr., 2); 23; Dwayne Goodrich (So., 1)
**CB 13 Terry Fair (Sr., 3)**; 18 Gerald Griffin (So., 1)
**SS 9 Tori Noel (Sr., 3)**; 2 Fred White (So., 1)
**FS** 30 Cory Gaines (Sr., 2); 26 Shane Begnaud (Sr., 2)
**P** 43 David Leaverton (Fr., 0); 21 Chris Hogue (Sr., 1)

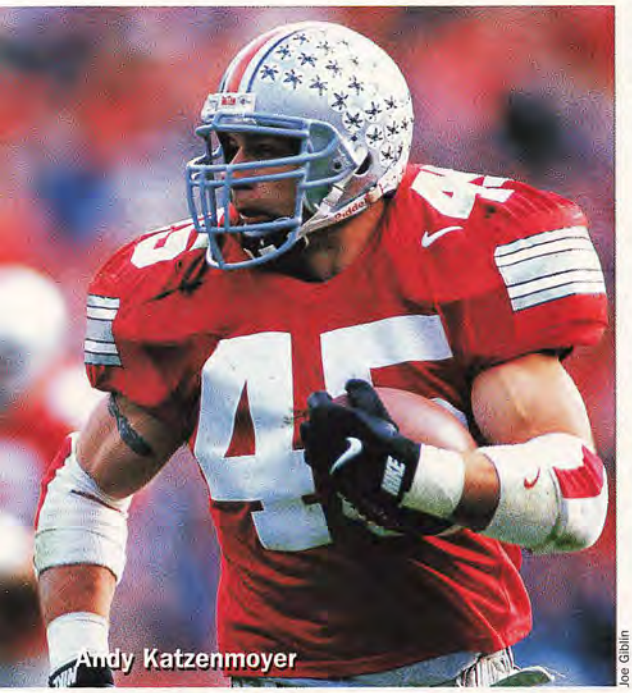
*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Ohio State Buckeyes

**Head Coach .....John Cooper**
**1996 Record (Big 10) ....11–1 (7–1)**
**1997 Prediction .....2nd Big 10**
**Home Field.....Ohio Stadium (89,841)**



One of the first things Ohio State coach John Cooper said after his Buckeyes scored with 19 seconds left to snatch a 20–17 victory over Arizona State in the Rose Bowl was that he proved a team could win using two quarterbacks. Well, Stanley Jackson and Joe Germaine, the two who combined for 2,301 yards passing in 1996, are back.


Andy Katzenmoyer

Joe Giblin

The Buckeyes have gone 22–3 the last two seasons and are coming off a Rose Bowl victory and a No. 2 national ranking.

The Buckeyes could hardly be in better shape at quarterback, but they have suffered losses — 14 starters in all.

Jackson, a junior, started all but the Michigan game. He is an elusive, big-play performer, whose playing time was limited, however, in the final three games. Against Michigan and in the Rose Bowl, Jackson threw for just 68 yards combined.

Germaine, a sophomore, is a classic dropback passer. In Ohio State's only loss, against rival Michigan in the regular-season finale, he threw for 148 yards. And in his MVP performance in the Rose Bowl, he completed nine of 17 passes for 131 yards. Germaine led the Big Ten in passing efficiency with a rating of 150.08.

Senior Pepe Pearson made a name for himself last season, rushing for 1,373 yards, eighth-best single-season effort in school history. Pearson has breakaway speed and the field vision to run effectively both inside and outside.

Sophomore Michael Wiley gives the backfield versatility. He averaged 32.3 yards per catch and 9.0 yards per carry.

Sophomore fullback Matt Keller is a tough blocker, especially adept at taking a short pass and turning it into a big gain.

There is no doubt that David Boston, a sophomore, will be one of the nation's top receivers. He started the last seven games and was second on the team with 29 catches for 430 yards and five touchdowns, plus two more in the Rose Bowl. Boston is noted for his first step and his ability to make defenders miss.

Junior Dee Miller takes over at flanker. Miller is a strong, physical blocker who runs precision routes.

Ohio State had to restock three-fifths of the line, which has a particularly large hole (literally) to fill with the departure of All-American Orlando Pace, Lombardi Award and Outland Trophy winner. Replacing Pace at left tackle is junior Brooks Burris, a backup last year who also can play guard.

Senior Eric Gohlstin shifts from right tackle to center. Also returning is Rob Murphy, a freshman All-American at left guard.

Sophomore Ben Gilbert and redshirt freshman Tyson Walter take over at right guard and tackle respectively. Gilbert got valuable playing time in eight games.

Jim Bell, a fifth-year senior, has played at defensive end and was a backup at tackle last season, but now he gets a shot at nose guard. John Day, a senior, and junior Jeff Wilson should take over for ends Mike Vrabel and Matt Finkes. Day played in seven games and is the best pass rusher. Wilson played behind Vrabel and has the edge in experience. Senior defensive tackle Winfield Garnett gives the Buckeyes a strong physical presence inside.

Sophomore Andy Katzenmoyer started every game at middle linebacker his freshman campaign, the only first-year Ohio State linebacker ever to do so.

Katzenmoyer, 1996 Big Ten Freshman of the Year, is a devastating tackler. He covers the field well and has the proverbial sixth sense for the ball — he totaled 77 tackles, 18 for losses, nine sacks and three interceptions.

Senior Kevin Johnson should start at one outside linebacker spot. At the other, it's Jerry Rudzinski, a junior, or a redshirt freshman, Na'il Diggs.

Free safety Damon Moore, a junior, is the lone returning starter in the secondary. He was credited with 77 tackles and led the team with five interceptions. Junior Ché Bryant moved from free safety to strong safety before last season.

**1-7-1** John Cooper's record against Michigan. The loss to the Wolverines last season cost Ohio State a shot at the national title, and the 1995 defeat cost the Buckeyes a Rose Bowl trip.

Junior Antoine Winfield, who has played extensively at both corners, likes to inflict big hits and has a knack for forcing fumbles. Gary Berry should start at the other corner as a sophomore.

Specialists are expected to be one of the Buckeyes' strengths with junior punter Brent Bartholomew (41.9-yard average) and redshirt freshman placekicker Dan Stultz, who missed last season after being diagnosed with Graves' disease. His weight is back to 185 pounds.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | **9 David Boston (So., 1)**; 83 Vaness Provitt (Fr., 0) |
| LT | 67 Brooks Burris (Jr., 2); 75 Jefferson Kelley (Fr., 0) |
| LG | **56 Rob Murphy (So., 1)**; 65 Mike Gurr (Fr., 0) |
| C | **50 Eric Gohlstin (Sr., 2)**; 63 Kurt Murphy (So., 1) |
| RG | 64 Ben Gilbert (So., 1); 78 Drew Elford (So., 1) |
| RT | 77 Tyson Walter (Fr., 0); 74 Eric Smith (So., 0) |
| TE | 85 John Lumpkin (Jr., 1); 10 Tommy Hoying (Sr., 1) |
| QB | **8 Stanley Jackson (Sr., 2)**; 7 Joe Germaine (Jr., 1) |
| FB | 23 Matt Keller (So., 1); 21 Charlie Sanders (So., 0) |
| TB | **29 Pepe Pearson (Sr., 3)**; 5 Michael Wiley (So.,1) |
| FL | 15 Dee Miller (Jr., 2); 42 Kevin Griffin (Jr., 2) |
| K | 47 Dan Stultz (Fr., 0) |

### DEFENSE (3)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | 97 John Day (Sr., 1); 90 Clinton Wayne (Fr., 0) |
| DT | **68 Winfield Garnett (Sr., 2)**; 73 Joe Brown (Fr., 0) |
| NG | 95 Jim Bell (Sr., 1); 93 Randy Homa (So., 0) |
| DE | 91 Jeff Wilson (Jr., 2); 96 Tony Eisenhard (So., 0) |
| LB | 52 Kevin Johnson (Sr., 1); 48 Matt LaVrar (So., 1) |
| LB | **45 Andy Katzenmoyer (So., 1)**; 44 Chris Kirk (So., 1) |
| LB | 35 Jerry Rudzinski (Jr., 2); 32 Na'il Diggs (Fr., 0) |
| CB | 11 Antoine Winfield (Jr., 2); 19 Ahmed Plummer (So., 1) |
| CB | 1 Gary Berry (So., 1); 20 Central McClellion (Jr., 2) |
| SS | 18 Ché Bryant (Jr., 2); 28 Mike Burden (So., 1) |
| FS | **13 Damon Moore (Jr., 2)**; 17 Percy King (So., 0) |
| P | **41 Brent Bartholomew (Jr., 2)** |

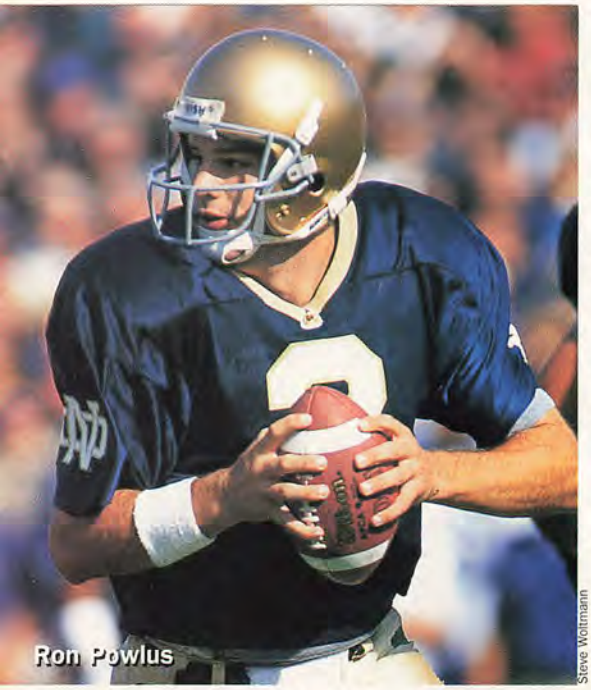
*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Notre Dame Fighting Irish

**Head Coach** .....**Bob Davie**
**1996 Record**.....**8–3**
**Home Field**.....**Notre Dame Stadium (80,000)**

There is less talk of a national championship at Notre Dame than in previous years, and a more relaxed atmosphere surrounding the players practicing under laid-back Bob Davie.

Davie candidly admits Notre Dame's 23–11–1 record over the last three seasons may be acceptable at some schools, but it falls far short of what used to be the perennial standard under the Golden Dome.


Ron Powlus

Steve Woltmann

Davie is prepared for a rebuilding year on defense, but is comfortable with his personnel on offense.

Ron Powlus returns for a fifth year with a new offense designed to take advantage of his dropback passing ability. Former Purdue coach Jim Colletto, whom Davie hired as offensive coordinator, instituted a five-step, seven-step and shotgun passing game that has Powlus beaming over the possibilities.

"Off the charts," is the way Powlus measures his anticipation. "I don't think I've been this excited since my freshman year."

Powlus gives Davie a rock on which to build an offense behind an experienced line.

Junior Autry Denson is the only returning running back with substantial experience. He is productive and efficient, joining Allen Pinkett as the only players in Irish history to break the 1,000-yard rushing mark in their sophomore seasons. Denson has elusiveness but lacks breakaway speed. He gets through the line of scrimmage but can be caught from behind.

Incoming freshmen Tony Driver and Cooper Rego, two high school All-Americans, will add the sizzle at the position.

Junior fullback Jamie Spencer, at around 250 pounds, has balance and hands to complement a short passing game.

Senior wide receiver Malcolm Johnson has 6–5 size and will be Powlus' target over the middle. Junior Shannon Stephens adds speed and sophomore Raki Nelson has very good hands and playmaking skills.

Junior tight end John Cerasani, who is tough and physical, has hands of brick and only one career catch. Sophomore Dan O'Leary is a more natural receiver and even worked at wide receiver last season.

The offensive line is the strength and anchor of the Irish. The challenge for offensive coordinator Colletto, who also serves as line coach, will be to school them in the art of pass-blocking.

Center Rick Kaczenski, strong-side tackle Mike Doughty and quick tackle Chris Clevenger return for a fifth year. Junior guard Mike Rosenthal, coming off shoulder surgery, is a strong All-America candidate. Juniors Jerry Wisne and Alex Mueller are game-tested guards, as is junior Tim Ridder at tackle.

First-year defensive coordinator Greg Mattison, fresh from Michigan, is rebuilding a front seven that lost five of its starters. To compensate for a lack of size, Mattison promises a new, one-gap scheme with an eight-man front and more blitzing.

Fifth-year senior Melvin Dansby will be play tackle, but he is coming off knee surgery. Junior Antwon Jones moves up at nose guard and senior Corey Bennett, a steady backup, will line up at end. Junior Lamont Bryant, a pass-rush specialist, takes over at rush end.

Junior Kory Minor enters his third year as a starter and the leader of the linebacking unit at his outside position. Minor is quick and smart, can cover underneath, yet is aggressive and explosive enough to blitz.

Mattison has plenty of bodies from which to choose his inside linebackers, but only junior Bobby Howard has experience.

Mattison hopes an experienced secondary will help his men up front play a blitzing, eight-man-in-the-box scheme. Senior Allen Rossum, a blazer, anchors the unit at cornerback. Senior Ivory Covington and sophomore Deveron Harper will split time on the other side.

Sophomore strong safety Benny Guilbeaux is good against the run but needs to sharpen his pass coverage. He will be pushed by junior A'Jani Sanders, returning from an injury.

**28** In the 11-year reign of Lou Holtz, Notre Dame ran back kickoffs or punts for touchdowns 28 times, while not allowing a return for a TD since Holtz's first year with the Irish.

Davie prefers a tall secondary and has senior Jarvis Edison and sophomore Deke Cooper, both about 6–3, at free safety. Cooper was thrown into battle as a freshman and picked off three enemy aerials as a part-time starter.

Junior Hunter Smith is a reliable punter, but it's been five years since the Irish have had a consistent placekicker. Bungled extra points and missed chip shots have been costly. Senior Scott Cengia, junior Kevin Kopka and sophomore Jim Sanson want the job. Kopka has the strongest leg and should get the nod if his accuracy holds up.

Rossum led the nation in punt returns and brought back three for touchdowns.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| SE | **6** | **Malcolm Johnson (Sr., 2)**; 88 Bobby Brown (Jr., 1) |
| LT | **75** | **Chris Clevenger (Sr., 3)**; 67 John Wagner (Jr., 0) |
| LG | 71 | Jerry Wisne (Jr., 1); 70 Tim Ridder (Jr., 1) |
| C | **57** | **Rick Kaczenski (Sr., 2)**; 78 Jon Spickelmier (Sr., 2) |
| RG | **79** | **Mike Rosenthal (Jr., 2)**; 52 Alex Mueller (Jr., 1) |
| RT | **73** | **Mike Doughty (Sr., 3)**; 54 Luke Petitgout (Sr., 1) |
| TE | 89 | John Cerasani (Jr., 1); 86 Dan O'Leary (So., 0) |
| QB | **3** | **Ron Powlus (Sr., 3)**; 7 Jarious Jackson (Jr., 1) |
| FB | 33 | Jamie Spencer (Jr., 1); 45 Joey Goodspeed (So., 1) |
| TB | **23** | **Autry Denson (Jr., 2)**; 32 Clement Stokes (Sr., 0) |
| WR | 21 | Shannon Stephens (Jr., 1); 9 Raki Nelson (So., 1) |
| K | 12 | Scott Cengia (Sr., 2); 20 Kevin Kopka (Jr., 1) |

### DEFENSE (6)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | 53 | Lamont Bryant (Jr., 1); 41 Joe Ferrer (Jr., 0) |
| DT | **51** | **Melvin Dansby (Sr., 3)**; 77 Brad Williams (So., 1) |
| NG | 85 | Antwon Jones (Jr., 1); 90 Lance Legree (So., 0) |
| DE | 95 | Corey Bennett (Sr., 3); 56 Kurt Belisle (Sr., 2) |
| LB | **4** | **Kory Minor (Jr., 2)**; 12 Mario Strayhorn (Jr., 0) |
| LB | 27 | Bobbie Howard (Jr., 2); 49 Joe Thomas (Jr., 1) |
| LB | 13 | Jimmy Friday (Jr., 1); 47 Bill Mitoulas (Sr., 3) |
| CB | **15** | **Allen Rossum (Sr., 3)**; 10 Deveron Harper (So., 1) |
| CB | **14** | **Ivory Covington (Sr., 3)**; 24 Ty Goode (Sr., 1) |
| SS | **2** | **Benny Guilbeaux (Jr., 1)**; 5 A'Jani Sanders (Jr., 1) |
| FS | **30** | **Jarvis Edison (Sr., 2)**; 1 Deke Cooper (So., 1) |
| P | **17** | **Hunter Smith (Jr., 2)** |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

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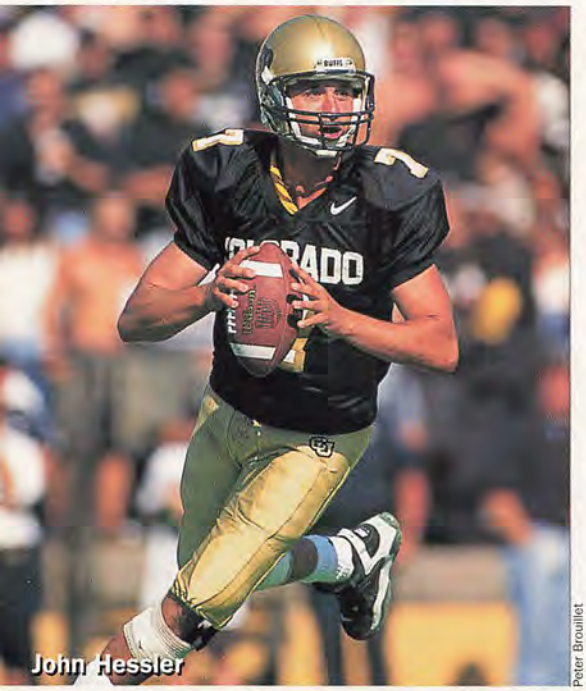
# Colorado Buffaloes

**Head Coach .....Rick Neuheisel**
**1996 Record (Big 12) ....10–2 (7–1)**
**1997 Prediction .....2nd Big 12 North**
**Home Field.....Folsom Field (51,808)**

Among the team functions Rick Neuheisel has arranged in his two seasons as head coach have been bowling and golf tournaments, boating and jet-ski outings and a tubing excursion down Boulder Creek. Because of such activities, "everyone thinks I'm this laissez-faire surfer boy who doesn't have a care and just wings it," the 36-year-old Neuheisel says. "Hey, I have a serious side, too."


John Hessler

Peter Brouillet

Neuheisel talked so seriously about winning the national championship last season, it seemed he could arrange that too. He couldn't.

The focus remains the same this season, but the talk has been toned down. "Our goal in 1997 will be to play our best — certainly not as newsworthy as my statement last year but certainly very true," Neuheisel says. "I made a mistake a year ago. . . . It wasn't the stating that was wrong as much as what it did in raising expectations early in the season to a level that wasn't realistic."

Neuheisel says of senior John Hessler: "He is going to go down, I think, as a big name in Colorado football history. He'll be in folklore as The Comeback Kid."

As Koy Detmer's backup for two seasons, Hessler directed the Buffaloes to an 8–2 record in games where he started or came off the bench early. Now he will try to work his passing magic as the full-time starter.

Sophomore Jeremy Weisinger, who has run 4.27 in the 40, and redshirt freshman Adam Bledsoe are backups. And yes, Bledsoe is the brother of New England Patriots quarterback Drew.

The Thoroughbred Trio of tailbacks, seniors Herchell Troutman and Lendon Henry and sophomore Dwayne Cherrington, returns.

Troutman, third-team all-conference, led the Buffaloes in rushing for the second consecutive season with 804 yards and four touchdowns. Junior Marlon Barnes moved into contention with a fine spring.

The running game hasn't been what it needs to be, though. Neuheisel has toyed with more double-tight end and two-back sets.

Senior Darren Fisk, who also has played inside linebacker and tight end, is the most experienced of the fullbacks.

Senior Phil Savoy was the go-to guy on third and fourth down, catching 16 passes in those situations for 279 yards. Chris Anderson, a senior, had a similar role as a possession receiver two seasons ago. Darrin Chiaverini, a solid downfield blocker, was one of the most improved players on the team. He capped his sophomore season by catching seven passes for 94 yards and a touchdown in the Holiday Bowl.

Sophomore Brody Heffner is an excellent receiver at tight end. He caught 20 passes for 288 yards and two touchdowns.

Seniors Melvin Thomas and Andrew Welsh are the best in the interior line. Junior Adam Reed appears poised to follow in a tradition of outstanding Colorado centers. Senior Aaron Wade, who got one start, can play either guard or tackle.

Seven of the top eight defensive linemen on the pre-Holiday Bowl depth chart return, including senior tackles Ryan Olson and Viliami Maumau, and junior end Nick Ziegler, all starters.

Olson, the nose tackle was fourth on the team in tackles with 91. His 8½ sacks were the most in four seasons by a Colorado down lineman.

The key question on defense, and perhaps the team, is who will replace Matt Russell, the Butkus Award winner, at middle linebacker.

Junior Terrell Cade began last season as a starter at defensive end but has had injury problems. Junior Clifton Peters showed promise before sitting out last season for unspecified medical reasons. Ty Gregorak could step in as a true freshmen.

Junior Hannibal Navies, who has the speed that is so important to Colorado's attacking style, is solid on the weak side, and senior Ron Merkerson is especially effective against the run.

**23** The number of ranked opponents Colorado has played in the last four seasons. The Buffaloes won 15 of those games.

Senior strong safety Ryan Black can play the run. He set a school record for tackles by a defensive back with 154.

Junior cornerback Marcus Washington sett a school record for pass deflections with 20. He was tried at free safety in the spring.

Senior Toray Elton Davis and sophomore Damen Wheeler have both started at cornerback.

Junior Jeremy Aldrich came on strong at the end of last season, kicking four field goals in four tries against Nebraska to tie a school record.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| WR | 80 | **Phil Savoy (Sr., 3)**; 17 Robert Toler (So., 1) |
| WR | 6 | Darrin Chiaverini (Jr., 2); 18 Chris Anderson (Sr., 3) |
| LT | 74 | **Andrew Welsh (Sr., 2)**; 72 Shane Cook, (So., 1) |
| LG | 75 | Aaron Wade (Sr., 2); 63 Corey Kish (So., 1) |
| C | 53 | **Adam Reed (Jr., 1)**; 64 Martin Simmons (So., 1) |
| RG | 78 | **Melvin Thomas (Sr., 2)**; 73 Kane Cullum (So., 1) |
| RT | 72 | Shane Cook (So., 1); 58 Ryan Johanningmeier (So., 1) |
| TE | 41 | **Tennyson McCarty (Sr., 3)**; 86 Brody Heffner (So., 1) |
| QB | 7 | John Hessler (Sr., 2); 1 Jeremy Weisinger (So., 1) |
| TB | 5 | **Herchell Troutman (Sr., 3)**; 39 Lendon Henry (Sr., 3) |
| WR | 2 | Marcus Stiggers (So., 1); 22 Ryan Nunez (So., 1) |
| P | 47 | Nick Pietsch (So., 2); 28 Andy Mitchell (Sr., 3) |

### DEFENSE (7)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | 13 | Fred Jones (So., 1); 80 Ian Loper (Fr., 0) |
| NT | 55 | **Ryan Olson (Sr., 3)**; 90 Aaron Marshall (Jr., 2) |
| DT | 77 | **Villami Maumau (Sr., 3)**; 96 Ian Christian (Fr., 0) |
| DE | 57 | **Nick Ziegler (Jr., 2)**; 98 Jesse Warren (So, 1) |
| WLB | 91 | **Mike Phillips (Sr., 3)**; 8 Hannibal Navies (Jr., 2) |
| MLB | 48 | Terrell Cade (Jr., 2); 44 Clifton Peters (Jr., 1) |
| SLB | 33 | **Ron Merkerson (Sr., 3)**; 66 Brandon Southward (Jr., 2) |
| CB | 4 | Toray Davis (Sr., 3); **37 Marcus Washington (Jr., 2)** |
| CB | 2 | Damen Wheeler (So., 1); 26 John Sanders (Fr. 0) |
| SS | 6 | **Ryan Black (Sr., 3)**; 5 Elan Edwards (Fr., 0) |
| FS | 36 | Ryan Sutter (Sr., 2); 40 Rashidi Barnes (So., 1) |
| K | 9 | Jeremy Aldrich (Jr., 2); 12 Jason Lesley (Sr., 2) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

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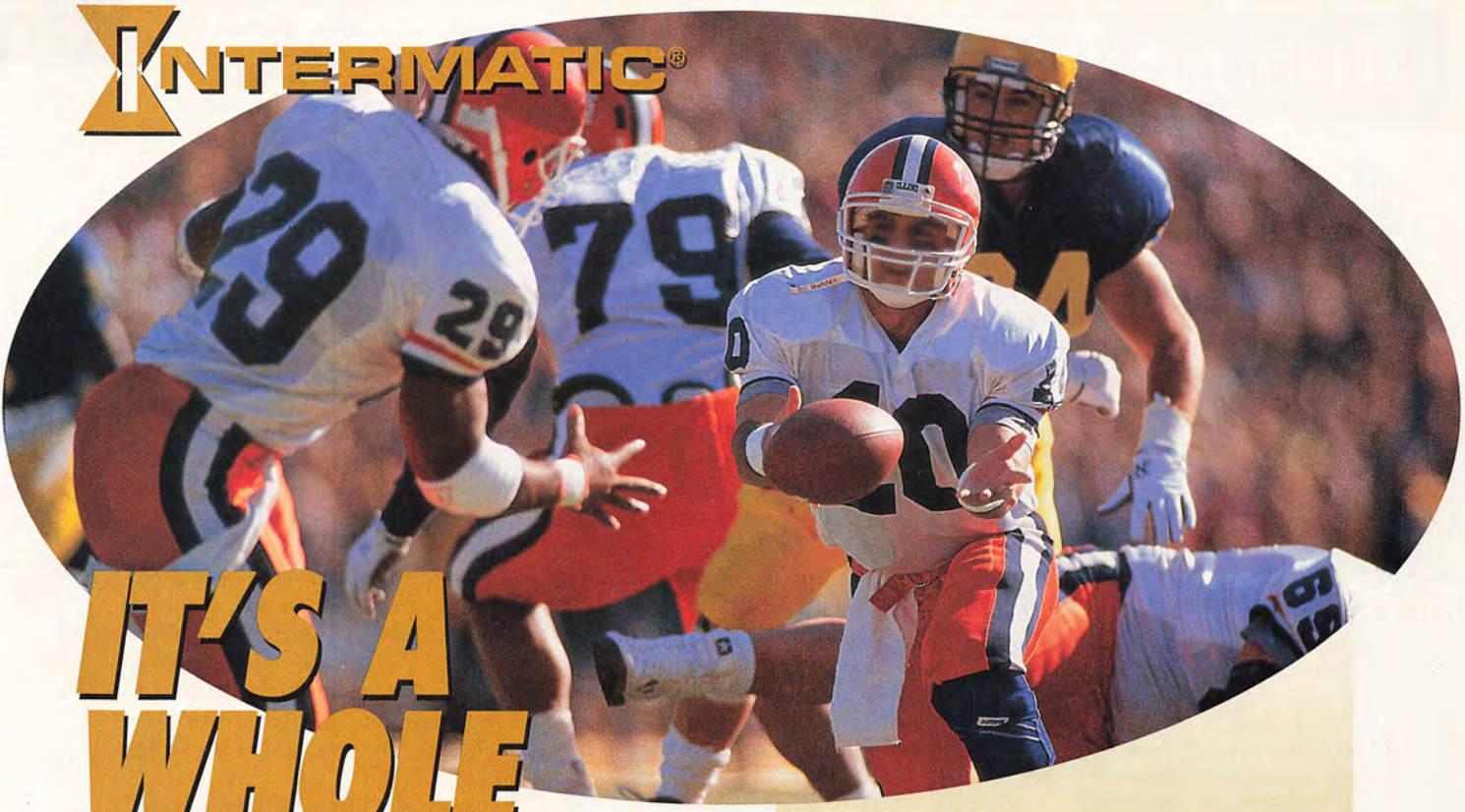

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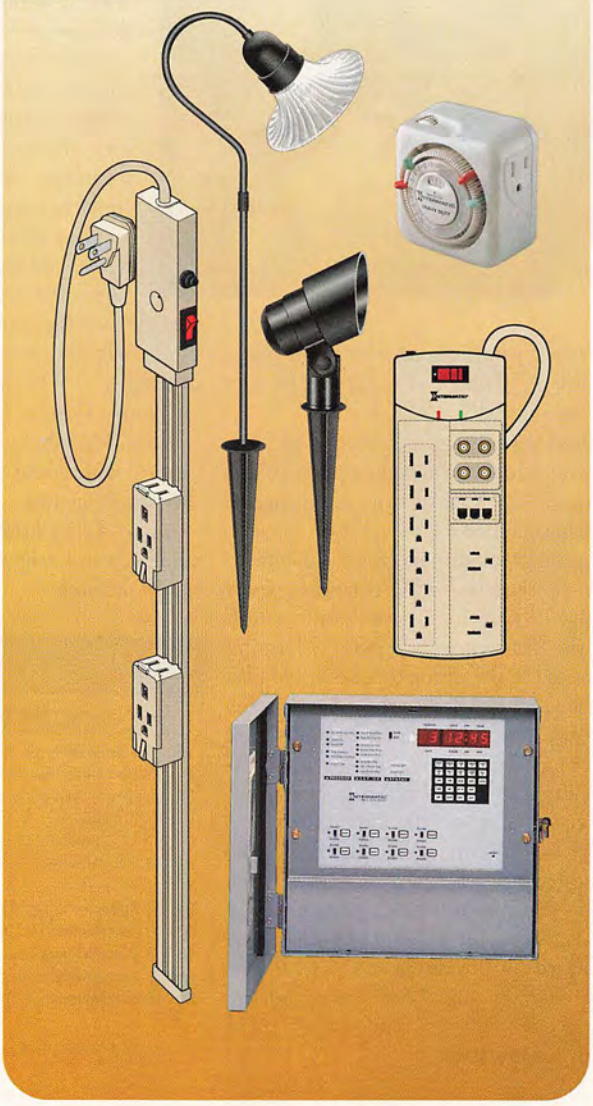

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# Auburn Tigers

**Head Coach** .....**Terry Bowden**
**1996 Record (SEC)** .....**8–4 (4–4)**
**1997 Prediction** .....**2nd SEC West**
**Home Field**.....**Jordan-Hare Stadium (85,214)**

Auburn athletic director David Housel extended coach Terry Bowden's contract one year at the end of last season but sent a stern message with it.

"Nobody at Auburn is happy with a 7–4 record," Housel said. "Our goals are higher than 7–4. We're especially concerned with our conference record the last two years (9–7), and that's where improvement has to come."

Takeo Spikes

Courtland Richards

Bowden, who jumped into Auburn legend with 11–0 and 9–1–1 records his first two years, agreed.

"I don't have 7–4 goals, either," said Bowden, who actually won eight games, counting the 32–29 victory over Army in the Independence Bowl.

So timing couldn't be better for him to count 18 starters — 10 defensive, seven offensive — back for another run.

Until Tennessee's Peyton Manning announced in the spring that he would play his final year of eligibility, the Tigers had the SEC's top returning quarterback in senior Dameyune Craig. Though not in Manning's league as a dropback passer or reader of defenses, Craig is a superior athlete.

"Playing Auburn is like defending the wishbone, and Dameyune's the triple option," says Alabama coach Mike DuBose.

Craig passed for 2,296 yards last season and rushed for 207 yards and eight touchdowns. He set school and Independence Bowl records with 447 yards running and passing against Army.

With his experience, Craig's decision making may be able to turn tragedies, such as the four-overtime loss to Georgia and one-point defeat by Alabama, the other way.

Craig needs to stay healthy. No other Tiger has taken a snap in college.

The running game dropped 41 yards per Saturday last season — 194.3 yards in '95 to 153.3 in '96 — so that's where the work was concentrated in the spring. Running backs coach Rodney Allison replaced Tommy Bowden, Terry's older brother, as offensive coordinator. Tommy went to Tulane as head coach.

Sophomore Rusty Williams at tailback and senior Kevin McLeod at fullback return but are not secure. The No. 2s are back as well. Sophomore tailback Markeith Cooper is a now-you-see-him, now-you-don't 5–6, 156-pounder who can run defenses crazy.

Senior fullback Fred Beasley is an enigma. He brought high potential as one of Auburn's best ball carriers ever. He was placed at fullback as a freshman and sophomore so he could be on the field with tailback Stephen Davis, a No. 1 draft pick. Beasley inherited the tailback job to begin last season and then disappeared down the depth chart. He wound up No. 2 fullback, yet was second on the team in rushing — 428 yards to Williams' 439.

Senior Tyrone Goodson and junior Karsten Bailey bring 81 catches and 1,234 yards to what could be one of the SEC's top five passing games.

Juniors Errick Lowe and Robert Baker are familiar faces Craig will see when the Tigers spread the field.

Seniors Tyrone Dillard and Mark Sharpe will decide the tight end assignment.

Senior all-star candidate Victor Riley has been moved from offensive guard to tackle and will be joined by sophomore Jeno James, an All-SEC Freshman. Junior guard Kendell Mack places 6–5 and 310 pounds next to James' 6–3 and 297 pounds.

At 6–1, 266 pounds, junior nose guard Jimmy Brumbaugh isn't likely to scare offenses with his size. He just kills them with his quickness. Brumbaugh is flanked by two quick ends, senior Shannon Suttle and sophomore Leonardo Carson.

The only player needing to be replaced on defense is last year's playmaker, outside linebacker Marcellus Mostella (eight tackles for losses). Best of the three returning starters in the four-linebacker scheme is junior Takeo Spikes. He and senior Ricky Neal were the top two tacklers last season with 119 and 111.

Senior outside linebacker Bobby Daffin is coming back from a stomach muscle tear that kept him out half of last season.

**36–9–1** Terry Bowden's four-year record as Auburn coach — 20–1–1 in his first two years and 16–8 in his last two.

Junior strong safety Martavius Houston may be the best of the secondary. He was the third-leading tackler with 83. Sophomore free safety Brad Ware made the All-SEC Freshman team.

Returning starters on the corners are small but super quick sophomores Antwoine Nolan and Rodney Crayton.

Placekicks and punts all come off the foot of senior Jaret Holmes, who led the SEC with 13 field goals.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

**WR 5 Karsten Bailey (Jr., 2)**; 8 Errick Lowe (Jr., 2)
**LT 78 Jeno James (So., 1)**; 74 Ben Elliott (So., 1)
**LG** 65 Kendell Mack (Jr., 2); 75 T.J. Meers (Fr., 0)
**C** 57 Karl Lavine (Jr., 2); 64 Blake Carruthers (Fr., 0)
**RG** 77 T.J. Dunigan (So., 1); 67 Marcus Autry (Fr., 0)
**RT 68 Victor Riley (Sr., 3)**; 69 DeMarcus Curry (Jr., 2)
**TE** 41 Tyrone Dillard (Sr., 3); 84 Mark Sharpe (Sr., 1)
**QB 16 Dameyune Craig (Sr., 3)**; 14 Ben Leard (Fr., 0)
**FB 43 Kevin McLeod (Sr., 3)**; 23 Fred Beasley (Sr., 3)
**TB 3 Rusty Williams (So., 1)**; 17 Markeith Cooper (So., 1)
**WR 83 Tyrone Goodson (Sr., 3)**; 21 Robert Baker (Jr., 2)
**K 19 Jaret Holmes (Sr., 1)**; 11 Kevin Gentle (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (10)

**DE 95 Leonardo Carson (So., 1)**; 90 Ezell Powell (So., 1)
**NG 96 Jimmy Brumbaugh (Jr., 2); 91 Charles Dorsey (Jr., 2)**
**DE** 99 Shannon Suttle (Sr., 3); 94 Nate Smith (Sr., 3)
**OLB 86 Quinton Reese (So., 1)**; 6 Ryan Taylor (Jr., 2)
**ILB 50 Ricky Neal (Sr., 2)**; 54 Haven Fields (So., 1)
**ILB 55 Takeo Spikes (Jr., 2)**; 42 Marcus Camp (Jr., 2)
**OLB** 92 Bobby Daffin (Sr., 3); 82 Marcus Washington (So., 1)
**CB 13 Antwoine Nolan (So., 1)**; 4 Jayson Bray (Jr., 2)
**CB 10 Rodney Crayton (So., 1)**; 26 Marlon Taylor (So., 1)
**SS 25 Martavius Houston (Jr., 2)**; 20 Courtney Rose (Fr., 0)
**FS 27 Brad Ware (So., 1)**; 28 Larry Melton (Sr., 3)
**P 19 Jaret Holmes (Sr., 1)**; 35 Jeremy Zills (Jr., 1)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

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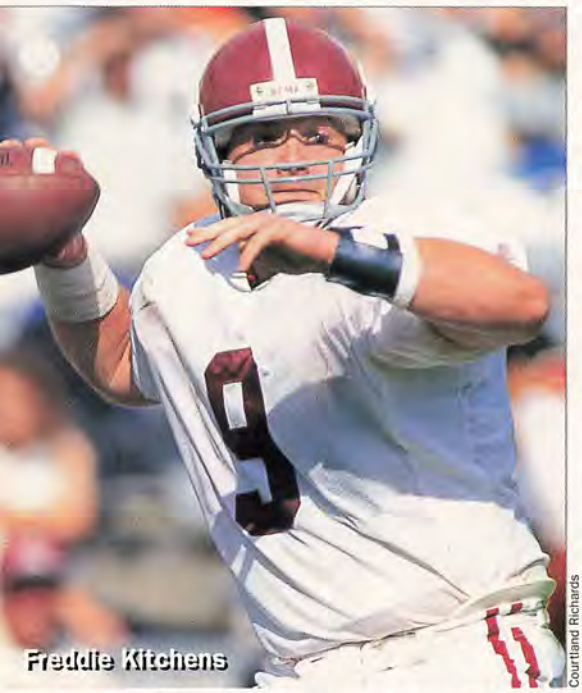
# Alabama Crimson Tide

**Head Coach .....Mike DuBose**
**1996 Record (SEC) .....10–3 (6–2)**
**1997 Prediction .....3rd SEC West**
**Home Field.....Bryant-Denny Stadium (70,123)**

Alabama's storied football program advances into a new era, but only the names have changed. Demand has not. At Alabama, winning is tradition.

For the fourth time since Bear Bryant retired in 1982, Bama begins a season under a new man. Mike DuBose replaces Gene Stallings, and DuBose appears a perfect fit.

DuBose was a big-play maker on a national championship team and three SEC champions as a player. He helped the Tide to another national title as an assistant coach.


Freddie Kitchens

Courtland Richards

He hired new coordinators, New Orleans Saints' Bruce Arians for offense, and Clemson's Ellis Johnson for defense. "We'll do a few things differently," DuBose says, "but we'll still be a physical football team."

Freddie Kitchens brings confidence and an 11–4 record as a starter to his senior season. Kitchens may have the strongest arm in the SEC, but his touch is questionable.

The sturdy 225-pounder has shown signs of maturity. He directed the 74-yard game-winning drive in the final 2:14 of last season's game against Auburn, without timeouts, to earn entry into the SEC championship game. During the spring, Kitchens was schooled in changing plays at the line.

Last year's tailbacks — senior Dennis Riddle (1,037 yards in '96), sophomore Shaun Alexander and senior Curtis Alexander — are coming back. Riddle gets yards with good vision of the field and toughness. Curtis Alexander is a flashier runner and excellent pass receiver who turns short passes into long gains. Shaun Alexander exploded for 291 yards and four touchdowns last year at LSU.

All three of the above will share two split-back assignments with senior Ed Scissum, last year's starting fullback.

Historically, these are not the star-making positions they have been at other schools, but game breakers are available. Junior split end Michael Vaughn led the team with 34 catches for 560 yards as a sophomore, including a 94-yard touchdown in the SEC Championship Game.

Junior flanker Calvin Hall is easy to spot at 6–4, and will be seen on the field quite a bit. He was a six-game starter with a 19.6-yard average on 16 catches. One exciting newcomer to watch is Quincy Jackson, a junior college All-American in '96.

Senior tight end Rod Rutledge may be as impressive catching the ball as any wide receiver, and he is one of the top blockers in the SEC.

Sophomore tackle Chris Samuels and senior guard Will Friend are returning starters who will make Kitchens' job much easier. Senior Brenon Meadows is back after a shoulder injury sidelined him last season. Sophomore tackle Jason McDonald and senior center Michael Ray will round out the offensive line.

Friend and Meadows are not massive but are excellent at pulling and clearing for the Tide's patented toss sweep.

After much soul-searching, defensive left tackle Michael Myers turned down the NFL to return for his senior season. There may not be a better big-play lineman in the country than this 1996 All-American who totaled 13 sacks during his first season at Bama out of the juco ranks.

Lining up with Myers is junior left end Chris Hood, who started every game and led the team in quarterback pressures.

Senior Eric Kerley at tackle and sophomore Reggie Grimes at end on the right side started four games between them last year.

While DuBose got a bonus in Myers' decision to stay, he lost one of the best linebackers in the country when Dwayne Rudd made himself available for the NFL draft. Rudd's defection left the Tide without a starter at any of the three linebacker positions.

Juniors Tito Smith and Steven Harris at outside linebacker and senior Paul Pickett in the middle are next in line at a position rich with tradition. Pickett did start four games as a junior, including a season-high 59 snaps in the finale against Auburn.

Two all-conference cornerbacks and two seasoned backup safeties make the secondary a defensive strength. In the corners, senior Deshea Townsend was first team All-SEC and junior Fernando Bryant was second team. Both play tight man-to-man coverage and are not bashful about run support.

**20** The number of SEC championships won or shared by Alabama since the league was formed in 1933. Tennessee is a remote second with 11.

Junior free safety Kelvin Sigler made the most of his one start last season when he intercepted two passes against LSU, but he faces a challenge from ex-quarterback Warren Foust. Senior Andre Short takes over at strong safety.

Junior Brian Cunningham was good on 19-of-21 extra points and 8-of-11 field goals in eight games. His longest field goal was 46 yards. Junior Daniel Pope was the backup punter last year but never took a snap.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| SE | 22 | **Michael Vaughn (Jr., 2)**; 84 Shamari Buchanan (So., 1) |
| LT | 60 | **Chris Samuels (So., 1)**; 63 Sage Spree (Jr., 2) |
| LG | 68 | **Will Friend (Sr., 3)**; 67 Kelvis White (Fr., 0) |
| C | 62 | Michael Ray (Sr., 2); 74 Paul Hogan (Fr., 0) |
| RG | 66 | Brenon Meadows (Sr., 1); 69 Michael Moore (So., 1) |
| RT | 70 | Jason McDonald (So., 1): 77 Joel Holliday (Sr., 3) |
| TE | 86 | Rod Rutledge (Sr., 3); 90 Clint Waggoner (So., 1) |
| QB | 9 | **Freddie Kitchens (Sr., 3)**; 12 John David Phillips (Jr., 2) |
| HB | 33 | Ed Scissum (Sr., 3); 32 Curtis Alexander (Sr., 3) |
| RB | 29 | **Dennis Riddle (Sr., 3)**; 37 Shaun Alexander (So., 1) |
| FL | 83 | **Calvin Hall (Jr., 2)**; 11 Chad Goss (Sr., 2) |
| K | 19 | **Brian Cunningham (Jr., 1)**; 5 Jonah Dismukes (Fr., 0) |

### DEFENSE (4)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | 34 | **Chris Hood (Jr., 2)**; 81 Edgar Walker (Sr., 2) |
| DT | 96 | **Michael Myers (Sr., 1)**; 90 Jamie Carter (So., 1) |
| DT | 99 | Eric Kerley (Sr., 3); 97 Heath Panks (Sr., 0) |
| DE | 98 | Reggie Grimes (So., 1); 81 Edgar Walker (Sr., 2) |
| LB | 89 | Tito Smith (Jr., 1); 4 Steve Stanley (Jr., 2) |
| LB | 42 | Paul Pickett (Sr., 2); 53 Granison Wagstaff (Jr., 2) |
| LB | 43 | Steven Harris (Jr., 2); 59 Chris Edwards (Jr., 2) |
| CB | 25 | **Fernando Bryant (Jr., 2)**; 35 Owen Winston (Jr., 2) |
| CB | 2 | **Deshea Townsend (Sr., 3)**; 3 Michael Feagin (Jr., 2) |
| SS | 23 | Andre Short (Sr., 3); 14 Jason Jones (Fr., 0) |
| FS | 17 | Warren Foust (Jr., 2); 20 Kelvin Sigler (Jr., 2) |
| P | 5 | Daniel Pope (Jr., 0); 24 Patrick Morgan (So., 0) |

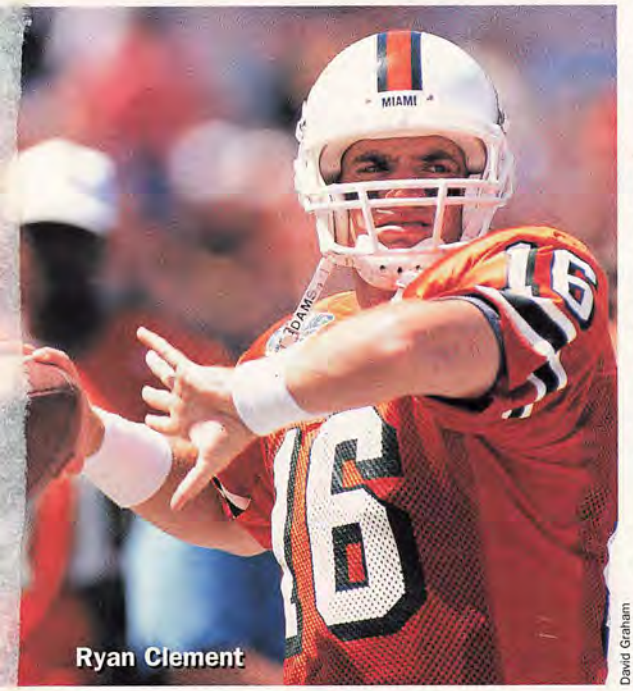
*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Miami Hurricanes

**Head Coach .....Butch Davis**
**1996 Record (Big East)..9–3 (6–1)**
**1997 Prediction .....1st Big East**
**Home Field.....Orange Bowl (74,476)**

For the first time in Butch Davis' three years as Miami's head coach, the entire coaching staff returns. Too bad he can't say that about his defense.

Only three starters are back from a unit which finished in the top 20 nationally in scoring defense and total defense. The second unit also was hit by graduation. In addition, wideout Yatil Green, defensive end Kenard Lang and strong safety Tremain Mack left early for the NFL.



Ryan Clement

David Graham

NCAA scholarship cuts are starting to kick in and, says Davis, who wasn't around when Miami ran afoul of the NCAA, "I still think it's going to take some time to dig ourselves out. There are some tough times ahead in terms of numbers."

The Hurricanes may withstand the penalties better than most. They went 8–3 and 9–3 in Davis' first two seasons and tied for the Big East championship both years.

"That's the mark and strength of a great program," Davis says. "If you have lean years and down years and are fortunate enough to be co-champions of your conference and go 8–3 and 9–3 and win a bowl, it says a lot about the staying power of your program." Miami's 31–21 win over Virginia in the Carquest Bowl was its first postseason triumph since its 1991 national championship.

The Carquest Bowl had barely ended when Ryan Clement was talking about a New Year's bowl after the 1997 season. The senior quarterback was among the national leaders in passing efficiency, completing 148 of 246 passes (60.2 percent) for 1,983 yards and 18 touchdowns.

Junior Scott Covington (73 of 125, 919 yards, four touchdowns, four interceptions) started against Boston College when Clement was injured and threw for 295 yards and three touchdowns.

Miami has always been known more for its passing than its running. But with junior Dyral McMillan, senior Trent Jones, and sophomore Edgerrin James at tailback, Davis may have the luxury of moving someone to fullback.

McMillan was the leading rusher with 560 yards on 103 carries. James came on strong after an early-season wrist fracture and gained 415 yards on 63 rushes (a 6.6 average). Jones contributed 329 yards on 73 carries and proved to be a good receiver out of the backfield.

Both fullbacks return: junior Carlo Joseph and Nick Williams, a 269-pound bulldozer who started the second half of the season.

The question marks are wideouts Jammi German, a senior, and Omar Rolle, a junior. Both are coming off knee injuries that sidelined them the entire season, although German was suspended anyway.

The Hurricanes lost three wide receivers who accounted for 83 catches, 1,427 yards and 11 touchdowns. The only returning wideout is junior Magic Benton.

Chris Jones caught 11 passes and returns at tight end. Talented sophomore Mondriel Fulcher (11 catches) also returns.

Three regulars return on the offensive line, but there will be a lot of shuffling. Senior Mike Wehner started every game at guard, but will probably move to center, where he started seven games in 1995. If Wehner stays at guard, sophomore Ty Wise could fill the spot at center vacated by All-American K.C. Jones.

Senior tackle Kerlin Blaise and junior guard Richard Mercier also return. The other tackle spot will go to one of two huge seniors, Shabaka Abdul-Majid (320) or Freeman Brown (340).

Two of the three returning defensive starters are the tackles, senior Denny Fortney and junior Michael Lawson. One or both could move to end to offset the loss of Holmes and Lang, but Davis says that will only happen after he takes a good look at junior Derrick Ham, sophomore Matt Sweeney and redshirt freshman Brian Stinson and Quincy Hipps.

All the starters will all be new at linebacker, including redshirt freshman Wilbur Valdez on the weak side and sophomore Michael Smith on the strong side. Sophomore Rod Mack, who started two games last year, is the likely middle linebacker.

**400** Miami's home opener against Arizona State will be the Hurricanes' 400th game in the Orange Bowl, where they are 265–128–6, including an NCAA-record 58-game winning streak.

Senior cornerback Duane Starks is the only returning regular in the secondary, although sophomore Nick Ward and junior Nate Brooks are battle-tested corners. So are the safeties, Dennis Scott (strong) and Eugene Ridgley (free), both seniors. Ridgley started five games in 1995 before being sidelined with a pinched nerve.

The Hurricanes must find a replacement for Tremain Mack, who led the nation in kickoff returns (39.5).

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| SE | 8 | **Magic Benton (Jr., 2)**; 9 Omar Rolle (Jr., 2) |
| RT | 70 | Shabaka Abdul-Majid (Sr., 2); 78 Freeman Brown (Sr., 3) |
| RG | 72 | Carlos Callejas (Sr., 2); 55 Eric Schnupp (So., 1) |
| C | 68 | **Mike Wehner (Sr., 3)**; 64 Ty Wise (So., 1) |
| LG | 62 | **Richard Mercier (Jr., 2)**; 76 Robert Sampson (So., 1) |
| LT | 79 | **Kerlin Blaise (Sr., 3)**; 74 J. Johnson (Sr., 3) |
| TE | 84 | **Chris Jones (Sr., 3)**; 18 Mondriel Fulcher (So., 1) |
| QB | 16 | **Ryan Clement (Sr., 3)**; 11 Scott Covington (Jr., 1) |
| FB | 30 | **Nick Williams (Jr., 2)**; 40 Carlo Joseph (Jr., 2) |
| TB | 28 | **Dyral McMillan (Jr., 2)**; 6 Trent Jones (Sr., 2) |
| FL | 7 | **Jammi German (Sr., 3)**; 26 Aaron Moser (Fr., 0) |
| K | 17 | **Andy Crosland (So., 1)** |

### DEFENSE (3)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | 71 | Derrick Ham (Jr., 1); 95 Brian Stinson (Fr., 0) |
| DT | 99 | **Denny Fortney (Sr., 3)**; 92 Damione Lewis (Fr., 0) |
| DT | 94 | Chad Pegues (Jr., 2); **97 Michael Lawson (Jr., 2)** |
| DE | 98 | Matt Sweeney (So., 1); 86 Quincy Hipps (Fr., 0) |
| LB | 34 | Wilbur Valdez (Fr., 0); 43 James Sutton (So., 0) |
| LB | 51 | Rod Mack (So., 1); 49 Clif Jackson (Jr., 2); |
| LB | 59 | Michael Smith (So., 0); 58 Jeffrey Taylor (Sr., 2) |
| CB | 27 | Nick Ward (So., 1); 2 Nate Brooks (Jr., 2) |
| CB | 23 | **Duane Starks (Sr., 1)**; 2 Nate Brooks (Jr. 2) |
| SS | 25 | Dennis Scott (Sr., 3); 36 Al Blades (Fr., 0) |
| FS | 29 | Eugene Ridgley (Sr., 3); 19 Tavokius Bonner (So., 1) |
| P | 17 | **Andy Crosland (So., 1)** |

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

# Michigan Wolverines

**Head Coach** .....Lloyd Carr
**1996 Record (Big 10)** ....8–4 (5–3)
**1997 Prediction** .....3rd Big 10
**Home Field**.....Michigan Stadium (102,501)

It has been a stretch that has provided more disappointment than exultation in Ann Arbor. The Michigan Wolverines have endured four-straight four-loss seasons, and a senior class graduated never having gone to the Rose Bowl.

These results border on sacrilege and have made some wonder if the block M is beginning to stand for "middle of the road."

Clarence Williams

Courtland Richards

Michigan returns 16 starters but faces its toughest schedule in three years: Notre Dame plus seven opponents that played in bowl games. The Wolverines have key holes to fill on the offensive line and in the kicking game, and controversy is brewing at quarterback.

Michigan coach Lloyd Carr does not like controversy, but he admits it could exist.

Junior Scott Dreisbach is the veteran of the veterans, having started all 11 regular-season games last year and four the previous season. But fifth-year senior Brian Griese will begin the season at No. 1. He was 5–4 as a starter in '95 after taking over for an injured Dreisbach. His teammates like his leadership qualities, and the coaches like his decision making. He surprised them all returning for his fifth year.

Dreisbach not only brings experience, but he is mobile, has an accurate arm and does not shy away from contact. He also might have the most motivation. Dreisbach was knocked out of the Ohio State game after first-half injuries, and Griese orchestrated the 13–9 come-from-behind victory in the second half. Griese was rewarded with the Outback Bowl start.

The one to watch will be freshman Jason Kapsner. At 6–6, 220 pounds, he is the biggest quarterback Michigan has ever had. He throws hard, he can scramble, he's accurate and he has a durable body.

Senior Chris Howard and junior Clarence Williams, considered co-No. 1 tailbacks, may lose ground to a freshman.

Anthony Thomas is ranked among the nation's top high school players. Running backs coach Fred Jackson says Thomas is reminiscent of former Michigan back Tyrone Wheatley. He has speed and balance, and could earn the starting job.

Michigan, under new offensive coordinator Mike DeBord, will feature more two-back sets. Senior Chris Floyd will be the lead fullback.

All-America cornerback Charles Woodson was also used effectively at wide receiver. He caught 10 passes for 139 yards. Carr says he will be a factor again.

Wolverines starters Tai Streets, a junior, and senior Russell Shaw return at wide receiver. Streets, a powerful runner who broke for a 69-yard touchdown against Ohio State, had 42 receptions for 718 yards. Junior tight end Jerame Tuman was All-Big Ten.

The left side of the line warrants concern. Michigan will rely on its youth movement. Jeff Backus, a redshirt freshman, has great technique and is considered a potential starter at left tackle. Steve Hutchinson, another redshirt freshman, and sophomore Steve Frazier are leading candidates at left guard and center. Right side experience will come from senior guard Zach Adami and junior tackle Jon Jansen. They started every game in 1996.

The likeliest replacement for All-Big Ten nose tackle William Carr is agile and quick sophomore Rob Renes. Senior Ben Huff returns as starting tackle.

Defensive end Glen Steele, a senior who suffers from chronic lower-back problems, proved his effectiveness against Orlando Pace in the Ohio State game. At the other end, junior David Bowens had 11 sacks, which tied Michigan's single-season record.

Sam Sword will be the linebacker to watch. This junior led the team with 108 tackles and his speed should make tailbacks nervous.

Senior Rob Swett could replace the graduated Jarrett Irons. At outside linebacker, junior Clint Copenhaver, who started the final five games, likely will get the job.

**105,932** The average attendance at Michigan Stadium in 1996. Although that led the nation, it was shy of the national record (106,217) the Wolverines set in 1994.

Woodson, with his team-high four interceptions, plus one in the Outback Bowl, is singled out by every opposing coach as the player most feared. Incoming freshman corner James Whitley has been described as another Woodson.

Safeties Marcus Ray and Daydrion Taylor, both juniors, should pick up where they left off.

Juniors Jay Feely, who handled kickoffs the last two seasons, and Kraig Baker have strong legs but are untested in field-goal situations. Cory Sargent, a redshirt freshman, likely will be the punter this season.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| WR | **86** | **Tai Streets (Jr., 2)**; 2 Charles Woodson (Jr., 2) |
| LT | 79 | Jeff Backus (Fr., 0); 71 Jeff Potts (So., 1) |
| LG | 76 | Steve Hutchinson (Fr., 0); 60 Nate Miller (Jr., 0) |
| C | 64 | Steve Frazier (So., 0); 67 David Brandt (Fr., 0) |
| RG | **68** | **Zach Adami (Sr., 3)**; 78 Noah Parker (Jr., 1) |
| RT | **77** | **Jon Jansen (Jr., 2)**; 52 Chris Ziemann (So., 1) |
| TE | **80** | **Jerame Tuman (Jr., 2)**; 88 Mark Campbell (Jr., 2) |
| QB | 14 | Brian Griese (Sr., 3); 13 Jason Kapsner (Fr., 0) |
| FB | 7 | Chris Floyd (Sr., 3); 34 John Anes (So., 1) |
| TB | **8** | **Chris Howard (Sr., 3); 33 Clarence Williams (Jr., 2)** |
| WR | **4** | **Russell Shaw (Sr., 1)**; 85 Marcus Knight (So., 1) |
| K | 49 | Jay Freely (Jr., 2); 46 Kraig Baker (Jr., 1) |

### DEFENSE (9)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | **81** | **Glen Steele (Sr., 3)**; 90 Juaquin Feazell (Jr., 2) |
| NT | 58 | Rob Renes (So., 1); 94 Eric Wilson (Fr., 0) |
| DT | **53** | **Ben Huff (Sr., 3)**; 91 Josh Williams (So., 1) |
| DE | **6** | **David Bowens (Jr., 2)**; 56 James Hall (So., 1) |
| LB | **43** | **Clint Copenhaver (Jr., 2)**; 55 Dhani Jones (So., 1) |
| LB | **93** | **Sam Sword (Jr., 2)**; 26 Eric Mayes (Sr., 2) |
| LB | **44** | **Rob Swett (Sr., 3)**; 59 Grady Brooks (Fr., 0) |
| CB | 16 | Brent Washington (So., 1); James Whitley (Fr., 0) |
| CB | **2** | **Charles Woodson (Jr., 2)**; 30 Andre Weathers (Jr., 2) |
| SS | **29** | **Marcus Ray (Jr., 2)**; 41 Tom Hendricks (So., 1) |
| FS | **28** | **Daydrion Taylor (Jr., 2)**; 9 DiAllo Johnson (So., 0) |
| P | 17 | Cory Sargent (Fr., 0); 38 Jason Vinson (Jr., 0) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

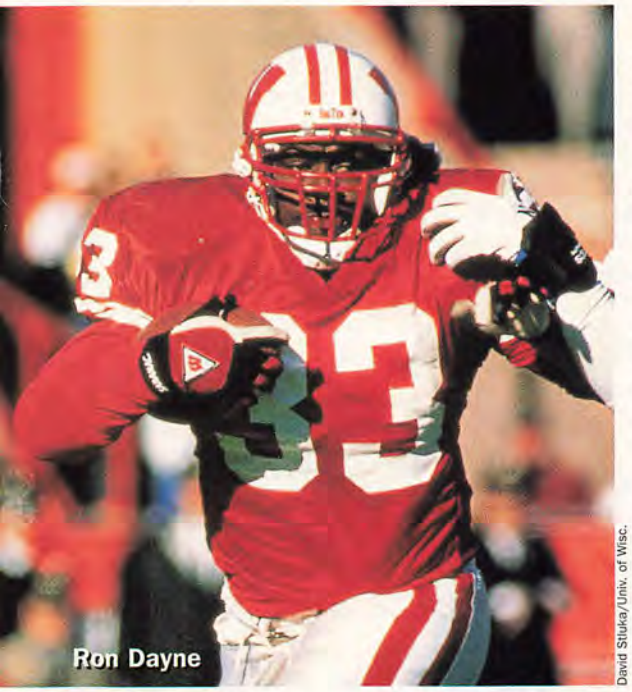
# Wisconsin Badgers



**Head Coach** .....Barry Alvarez
**1996 Record (Big 10)** ....7–5 (3–5)
**1997 Prediction** .....4th Big 10
**Home Field**.....Camp Randall (77,745)

With the return of virtually all of his skilled players, including Heisman Trophy candidate Ron Dayne at tailback, Barry Alvarez again has raised the bar in Wisconsin.

Not so quickly, says Alvarez. Dayne had a spectacular freshman season as he rushed for more than 2,000 yards even though he didn't start until the fifth game. But Alvarez knows that war is won in the trenches, and that is where he has to rebuild, losing four fifth-year seniors off the offensive line.


Ron Dayne

David Stluka/Univ. of Wisc.

Quarterback Mike Samuel, who has a very good arm and runs well, is the key for Wisconsin establishing a more balanced offense to compensate for its inexperienced line. Once Dayne got rolling on the ground, Samuel threw an average of 27 passes per game. He averaged fewer than 11 over the last six games and completed 58.3 percent of his passes as a sophomore.

"It was like trying to stop a Mack truck with a pea shooter," is the way Hawaii assistant Don Lindsey described the challenge of stopping the 261-pound Dayne. That regular-season finale was no contest as Dayne rolled up 339 yards against Hawaii, capping a season in which he broke nearly every NCAA freshman rushing mark. Dayne uses his size to bowl over and plow through defenders and then runs like he has a phantom gear.

"He goes into the line, comes out the other end and then outruns the secondary," is the way Alvarez describes his special prize.

For the third straight season, the dirty work in the Badger backfield falls to junior fullback Cecil Martin, a strong blocker who also is a proven pass-catcher.

To resuscitate his passing game, Alvarez will lean on one of the league's finest receiver tandems. Senior Tony Simmons, one of the fastest players in the Big Ten who just missed qualifying for the 100 meters at the U.S. Olympic trials, returns to flanker after an injury-plagued season. He will be complemented by 6–5 senior Donald Hayes, the team's leading receiver last year.

Eric Grams, a junior and former walk-on, returns as a steady performer at tight end.

Fluctuating between 370 and 390 pounds, 6–7 junior Aaron Gibson is the biggest player in Division I-A. He wears a size 62 coat and a size 19 shoe, but can perform a cheerleader's split. He'll be one of the answers Alvarez seeks in rebuilding his offensive line. The last half of '95, with Gibson lined up at tight end, Wisconsin rushed for 263 yards per game. He will slide over a slot to right tackle. At left tackle, sophomore Chris McIntosh is a grizzled veteran, the only returning starter in the line.

Junior-college transfer Coleman Johnson looks like a peanut compared to the tackles, but Alvarez is counting on him to start at center. The leading candidates at guard among five redshirt freshmen are Dave Costa and Bill Ferrario.

Junior Tom Burke, the only returning defensive line starter, played inside in '96 but now assumes the end position vacated by the departure of Wisconsin's all-time sack leader Tarek Saleh. Alvarez says Burke is bigger, stronger and a tad faster than Saleh.

Redshirt freshman John Favret, a high school All-American in 1995, emerged in spring practice to nail down the other defensive end spot. Sophomore Chris Janek moved in at nose guard after seeing action in reserve last season. Ross Kolodziej, a sophomore who played last year before breaking his hand, is expected to assume the tackle post though he missed spring practice with an appendectomy.

The Badgers received a tough blow when Donny Eicher, a projected sophomore starter, tore his ACL in the spring game. He will miss the entire season. Senior David Lysek, one of only two returnees in the front seven, is a hard hitter. Senior Brian Flanigan should man the other inside linebacker spot.

Junior Bob Adamov, a strong run-stopper, has been moved from strong safety to the outside linebacking position.

The secondary is a unit that needs to be shored up after yielding just over 251 passing yards per game.

**1,066** Ron Dayne gained 1,066 yards after contact last season. That is more than half of his NCAA-freshman record-setting 2,109 rushing yards earned last season.

Senior Jason Suttle, the best coverage man, is the anchor at cornerback. He led the team with five interceptions. Senior LaMar Campbell broke up 12 passes last year at the other corner and picked off four other throws.

Sophomore Bobby Myers returns to free safety and junior Leonard Taylor gets the call at strong safety.

Sophomore Vitaly Pisetsky will do the placekicking. Another sophomore, Eric Skrzypchak, was the team's pooch punter last season and did all the punting in the spring.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| SE | 84 | **Donald Hayes (Sr., 3)**; 6 Kevin Huntley (Sr., 3) |
| LT | 75 | **Chris McIntosh (So., 1)**; 74 Mark Tauscher (So., 0) |
| LG | 54 | Dave Costa (Fr., 0); 73 Joe Gribowski (Fr., 0) |
| C | 52 | Coleman Johnson (Jr., 0); 54 Dave Costa (Fr., 0) |
| RG | 93 | Bill Ferrario (Fr., 0); 70 Casey Rabach (Fr., 0) |
| RT | 79 | Aaron Gibson (Jr., 1); 69 Pat Daley (So., 0) |
| TE | 89 | Eric Grams (Jr., 1); 49 Ryan Sondrup (Jr., 2) |
| QB | 10 | **Mike Samuel (Jr., 2)**; 12 Scott Kavanagh (So., 1) |
| FB | 37 | **Cecil Martin (Jr., 2)**; 32 Branden Cantrell (Sr., 3) |
| TB | 33 | **Ron Dayne (So., 1)**; 13 Carl McCullough (Sr., 3) |
| FL | 82 | **Tony Simmons (Sr., 3)**; 1 Ahmad Merritt (So., 1) |
| K | 20 | Vitaly Pisetsky (So., 0); 28 Matt Davenport (Jr., 0) |

### DEFENSE (5)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | 74 | **Tom Burke (Jr., 2)**; 25 Marcus Carpenter (So., 1) |
| NG | 58 | Chris Janek (So., 1); 59 Joe Innis (Sr., 0) |
| DT | 78 | Ross Kolodziej (Fr., 0); 53 Rob Roell (So., 0) |
| DE | 96 | John Favret (Fr., 0); 99 Dave Cruickshank (Jr., 1) |
| OLB | 29 | **Bob Adamov (Jr., 2)**; 5 Ed Hartwell (Fr., 0) |
| ILB | 55 | Brian Flanigan (Sr., 3); 44 Donnel Thompson (So., 1) |
| ILB | 57 | **David Lysek (Sr., 3)**; 16 Chris Ghidorzi (So., 1) |
| CB | 38 | **LaMar Campbell (Sr., 3)**; 3 Onjai Bryant (So., 1) |
| CB | 28 | **Jason Suttle (Sr., 3)**; 31 Sam Elmore (Fr., 0) |
| SS | 34 | Leonard Taylor (Jr., 2); 15 Tim Rosga (So., 1) |
| FS | 26 | Bobby Myers (So., 1); 30 Jean Jourdain (So., 1) |
| P | 23 | Eric Skrzypchak (So., 1); Kevin Stemke (Fr., 0) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Texas A&M Aggies

**Head Coach** .....R.C. Slocum
**1996 Record (Big 12)** ....6–6 (4–5)
**1997 Prediction** .....2nd Big 12 South
**Home Field**.....Kyle Field (70,210)

Prior to the 1995 season, Texas A&M placed a photo of the Fiesta Bowl in the locker room to serve as a reminder of the team's No. 1 goal: a shot at the national championship that year. This season, perhaps the Aggies should place a photograph of a football in the locker room.

One of the nation's elite teams of the 1990s, A&M suffered its worst season last year since 1983. The primary reason for the frustrating fall was a failure to protect the football. In six losses, the Aggies committed 22 turnovers.

Branndon Stewart

Peter Brouillet

"Turnovers killed us," A&M coach R.C. Slocum says. "The years you make very few turnovers, people want you to speak at coaches conventions on how to protect the ball. Then there are years like '96 when you keep coughing it up. Hopefully, we got that out of our system."

If A&M can limit turnovers in 1997, there is enough talent in place to make a dramatic turnaround from last year's 6–6 disappointment and bounce back into a bowl game.

Senior Branndon Stewart has the physical tools to be one of the nation's better quarterbacks. He has good size (6–3, 214), a strong arm (1,904 yards passing) and an outstanding ability to run. In warm-ups, he looks like a young John Elway. So why did the Tennessee transfer struggle so often last year?

"Branndon is a talented guy, but he was basically like a freshman," Slocum says. "He played sparingly as a freshman at Tennessee (behind Peyton Manning) and sat out a year after his transfer. He played like a guy who hadn't played much. He forced some things early and his confidence was rattled. But I expect to see a completely different, much more comfortable Branndon Stewart."

If Stewart makes better decisions, the Aggies could be in great shape. Sophomore Randy McCown is a bright and capable backup.

Contrary to what some opponents may have thought, Leeland McElroy did turn pro in 1996. The A&M player wearing No. 34 just played much like McElroy.

Dante Hall, the Big 12 Freshman of the Year, combines an outstanding mixture of power and elusiveness. He rushed for 642 yards on 92 carries (7.0 yards per carry), while splitting time with juniors Sirr Parker and Eric Bernard. Hall should be the main man among the talented trio of tailbacks.

With Hall and powerful junior fullback D'Andre Hardeman (669 yards and 17 touchdowns), the Aggies have a pair of "H" bombs in the backfield.

The loss of big-play receiver Albert Connell and the brittle nature of juniors Aaron Oliver and Donte Hawkins make wide receiver the biggest area of concern on offense.

Sophomores Leroy Hodge, Matt Bumgardner and Chris Cole, along with true freshman Antoine Gandy, could play vital roles.

An interesting battle is shaping up at tight end, where juniors Derrick Spiller and Dan Campbell return after splitting time a year ago.

Part of Stewart's inconsistencies was a direct result of breakdowns up front. The Aggies surrendered 27 sacks and Stewart was often under heavy pressure.

The offensive line should be better. Senior tackle Chris Ruhman, senior guard Steve McKinney, senior center Koby Hackradt, sophomore guard Semisi Heimuli and junior tackle Cameron Spikes have all started throughout much of their careers.

All three defensive line starters are gone, but the backups (Brad Crowley, Zerick Rollins and Marcus Heard) are seniors now and have seen considerable playing time.

Even with the loss of All-American Keith Mitchell, the Aggies are again loaded at linebacker. Some things never change.

Leading the charge will be junior inside linebacker Dat Nguyen. In the middle is junior Warrick Holdman, and senior Phillip Meyers and sophomore Chris Thierry show big-time blitzing abilities on the outside.

**1-8** Since the third game of 1995, Texas A&M's only win against bowl teams came against Michigan. A&M plays four teams in '97 that went to bowl games last year.

A&M should be dramatically improved in the secondary. Junior college transfer Eric Jennings was ineligible last year but is now ready to step into one corner. Junior Shun Horn will move from cornerback to strong safety.

Senior kicker Kyle Bryant hit 18-of-23 field-goal attempts and 35-of-38 extra-point tries. As a punt returner, Hall led the nation in returns (43) and punt return yardage (573), breaking a 53-year-old school record.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

**SE 37 Donte Hawkins (Jr., 2)**; 1 Aaron Oliver (Jr., 2)
**RT 73 Cameron Spikes (Jr., 2)**; 78 Andy Vincent (So., 1)
**RG 62 Semisi Heimuli (So., 1)**; 71 Chris Valetta (Fr., 0)
**C** 69 Koby Hackradt (Jr., 2); 53 Rex Tucker (Jr., 2)
**LG 72 Steve McKinney (Sr., 3)**; 56 Toby McCarthy (Fr., 0)
**LT 76 Chris Ruhman (Sr., 3)**; 74 Brandon Houston (Jr., 2)
**TE 87 Derrick Spiller (Jr., 2)**; 89 Daniel Campbell (Jr., 2)
**QB 7 Branndon Stewart (Sr., 1)**; 15 Randy McCown (So., 1)
**FB 20 D'Andre Hardeman (Jr., 2)**; 33 Marc Broyles (Jr., 2)
**TB** 34 Dante Hall (So., 1); 8 Sirr Parker (Jr., 2)
**FL** 88 Leroy Hodge (So., 1); 81 Matt Bumgardner (So., 0)
**K 3 Kyle Bryant (Sr., 3)**;

### DEFENSE (6)

**LE** 94 Zerick Rollins (Sr., 2); 57 Kevin Vestal (So., 0)
**NT** 90 Stephen Young (Fr., 0); 97 Marcus Heard (Sr., 3)
**RE** 45 Brad Crowley (Sr., 3); 92 Mike Kazmierski (So., 0)
**OLB 51 Phillip Meyers (Sr., 3)**; 58 Chris Thierry (So., 1)
**ILB** 28 Trent Driver (Sr., 3); 44 Sean Coryatt (So., 1)
**ILB 9 Dat Nguyen (Jr., 2)**; 60 Rory Couch (Fr., 0)
**OLB 43 Warrick Holdman (Jr., 2)**; 46 Cornelius Anthony (Fr., 0)
**CB** 39 Jason Webster (So., 1); 4 Delvin Wright (Fr., 0)
**CB 21 Shun Horn (Jr., 2)**; 27 Jeff Wilson (Fr., 0)
**SS 48 Rich Coady (Jr., 2)**; 18 Sedrick Curry (So., 1)
**FS 30 Brandon Jennings (So., 1)**; 5 Toya Jones (Jr., 2)
**P 6 Shane Lechler (So., 1)**

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

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# Iowa Hawkeyes

**Head Coach** .....Hayden Fry
**1996 Record (Big 10)** ....9–3 (6–2)
**1997 Prediction** .....5th Big 10
**Home Field**.....Kinnick Stadium (70,397)

Hayden Fry spent his 19th spring at Iowa tinkering with replacements for the four vacancies each on offense and defense. Now, he is spending the early weeks of the preseason preparing the Hawkeyes for a daunting schedule that includes two stretches of back-to-back road games against some of the toughest teams in the Big Ten. The first swing comes against Ohio State and Michigan, then three weeks later, Wisconsin and Northwestern.

Tim Dwight

Steve Woltmann

The Hawkeyes had a strong finish in 1996 with three straight victories en route to a 9–3 record. They were No. 18 in the final AP poll and third in the Big Ten. Despite those numbers, the Hawkeyes still seem to be the overlooked team in the league.

"We've always been looked at that way," Fry says. "We like the underdog role. We're just kind of low-key about it all and try to walk softly and carry a big stick."

As long as senior quarterback Matt Sherman remains healthy, the Hawkeyes are set at this position. Sherman has started 26 consecutive games and was second-team All-Big Ten last season, but there are no experienced backups on the roster. Sherman, 19–7 as Iowa's starter, is among the league's most efficient passers.

It won't be easy to forget the Hawkeyes' dynamic tailback, Sedrick Shaw, who was only the eighth player in Big Ten history to rush for 1,000 yards or more three times.

Shaw may have piled on the rushing yards, but his backup, Tavian Banks, was the leading scorer with 12 touchdowns. Banks, a senior, also is a weapon as a receiver out of the backfield.

Junior Michael Burger, the starting fullback, is a strong blocker and has good hands. And he averaged 5.4 yards a carry.

Sherman should boost his passing statistics thanks to a top-notch group of receivers. All-Everything Tim Dwight leads the group of four seniors. Dwight had 100-plus receiving yards in three of the final four games and was the Hawkeyes' third-leading scorer with nine touchdowns (four receiving, three rushing and two punt returns).

Damon Gibson, Ricchard Carter and Richard Willock combined for 518 yards on 32 receptions.

For the third time during Fry's tenure, a tight end is being converted to left tackle. Junior Chris Knipper, a strong blocker, made the move to tackle during the spring.

Junior Derek Rose, a 10-game starter at right guard, moves to center. To his left will be junior Matt Reischl and to his right will be senior Mike Goff. Senior Jeremy McKinney, a three-time letter-winner, is back to start at right tackle.

Fry has concentrated in recent years on recruiting bigger, faster defensive linemen, and he thinks he has them. The Hawkeyes proved formidable, holding five teams to less than 100 yards rushing.

Junior tackle Jared DeVries, named the MVP in Iowa's last two bowl games and an All-Big Ten selection, sparks the defense. DeVries led the Big Ten in tackles for loss (22 for 133 yards) and sacks (13 for 104 yards), and he was tied for fourth on the team with 67 tackles.

The remaining spots in the interior belong to Aron Klein at nose guard and Jon LaFleur at the right tackle. Senior Jason House and sophomore Ryan Loftin take over at the vacated end positions.

The Hawkeyes return junior linebackers Matt Hughes and Vernon Rollins, both of whom started every game last season. "We probably have the two best linebackers we've had in my 19 years at Iowa," Fry says. Hughes led the team with 136 tackles and Rollins was second with 126 — they were third and fourth, respectively, in the Big Ten.

Cornerback Plez Atkins and strong safety Kerry Cooks are returning senior starters and will be the nucleus of the depleted secondary. Atkins has great quickness and cover ability. Cooks started every game a year ago, providing strong run support (65 tackles).

Senior Ed Gibson will start at the left corner and junior Eric Thigpen at free safety. Both have considerable experience.

**397** The number of games Hayden Fry has coached, which is more than any other active Division I coach.

The Hawkeyes lost quite a one-two punch with the departures of Nick Gallery and Brion Hurley. Gallery had been the punter the last four seasons and was All-Big Ten the last two. Hurley's last 10 field goals all covered at least 45 yards.

Junior placekicker Zach Bromert is consistent within 39 yards. Accuracy is not his problem, distance is.

Iowa must dig deep to replace Gallery. The best bet is freshman Jason Baker.

The special-teams weapon is Dwight. He was second nationally with an 18.3-yard average on punt returns and led the Big Ten in that category for the second time in three years.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

**SE** 18 Damon Gibson (Sr., 2); 4 Ricchard Carter (Sr., 2)
**LT** 67 Chad Deal (So., 0); 78 Billy Brann (Fr., 0)
**LG** **76 Matt Reischl (Jr., 2)**; 69 Shalor Pryor (So., 0)
**C** **64 Derek Rose (Jr., 1)**; 91 Jay Bickford (So., 0)
**RG** 79 Mike Goff (Sr., 3); 70 Justin Craun (Fr., 0)
**RT** **68 Jeremy McKinney (Sr., 3)**; 57 Keith Rigtrup (Sr., 0)
**TE** **81 Chris Knipper (Jr., 2)**; 82 Jed Dull (So., 1)
**QB** **12 Matt Sherman (Sr., 3)**; 13 Randy Reiners (So., 0)
**FB** **85 Michael Burger (Jr., 2)**; 35 Trevor Bollers (Jr., 2)
**TB** 22 Tavian Banks (Sr., 3); 31 Rob Thein (So., 1)
**FL** **6 Tim Dwight (Sr., 3)**; 25 Richard Willock (Sr., 2)
**K** **38 Zach Bromert (Jr., 2)**; 17 Kurt Hintz (So., 0)

### DEFENSE (7)

**DE** 28 Jason House (Sr., 3); 42 Tariq Peterson (So., 0)
**DT** **94 Jared DeVries (Jr., 2)**; 98 Ed Saidat (So., 0)
**NG** **90 Aron Klein (Jr., 2)**; 96 Corey Brown (So., 1)
**DT** **55 Jon LaFleur (Sr., 3)**; 72 Epenesa Epenesa (Sr., 0)
**DE** 48 Ryan Loftin (So., 1); 95 Evan Wardell (So., 0)
**LB** **37 Matt Hughes (Jr., 2)**; 44 Raj Clark (So., 0)
**LB** **56 Vernon Rollins (Jr., 2)**; 54 Brandon Hearse (So., 0)
**CB** 26 Ed Gibson (Sr., 2); 11 Joe Slattery (So., 0)
**CB** **23 Plez Atkins (Sr., 3)**; 2 Tarig Holman (So., 0)
**SS** **15 Kerry Cooks (Sr., 3)**; 33 J.P. Lange (Sr., 1)
**FS** 21 Eric Thigpen (Jr., 2); 19 Matt Bowen (So., 0)
**P** 86 Austin Wheatley (So., 0); 29 Doug Miller (So., 0)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

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# Stanford Cardinal

Head Coach .....Tyrone Willingham
1996 Record (Pac-10)....7–5 (5–3)
1997 Prediction .....2nd Pac-10
Home Field.....Stanford Stadium (85,000)

The momentum Stanford built in 1996 by winning its final five games, including a 38–0 victory over Michigan State in the Sun Bowl, carries high expectations.

With a sophomore quarterback getting better each game and the return of an improved defense, Stanford can challenge for the Rose Bowl berth, especially with Pac-10 favorite Washington not on the schedule.

Mike Mitchell

Peter Brouillet

Junior Chad Hutchinson made himself an NFL prospect in the last five games. "It was incredible to watch him develop," says California head coach Tom Holmoe. "He was not good at the beginning of the season."

Hutchinson has a pro arm, pro size (6–5, 230) and a pro demeanor. He's not much of scrambler and is susceptible to sacks because he hasn't learned when to throw the ball away. Holmoe believes incoming freshman Randy Fasani, one of the nation's top high school quarterbacks last season, could challenge Hutchinson for the job. Fasani will probably redshirt and could be Stanford's quarterback in 1998, because Hutchinson, a standout pitcher, should have an opportunity to sign a pro baseball contract next summer, or enter the NFL draft.

Mike Mitchell and Anthony Bookman were rated among the nation's best halfback duos prior to last season. Mitchell proved his worth as a runner who follows blockers well and makes tacklers miss. Bookman had an off year and must prove his productive 1995 season was no fluke. Bookman's breakaway speed offers a perfect complement to Mitchell's size and smarts, but neither is overpowering. Both catch passes in Stanford's scheme, and they have no problem sharing the halfback job.

Fullbacks Jon Ritchie and Greg Comella are serviceable blockers and receivers.

Troy Walters did not start, but was the top receiver over the final six games with 22 catches, two for scores. He is small (5–8) but has a knack for making game-breaking plays. The other wide receiver, senior Damon Dunn, has speed, but is not as effective as Walters in traffic.

The offensive line should be adequate, if not dominant, after being an embarrassment the first seven games last season. Stanford yielded 44 sacks, although Hutchinson's reluctance to get rid of the ball affected the total.

The tackles will be solid if senior Geoff Wilson has recovered after suffering a torn ACL last preseason. Jeff Cronshagen will be the other tackle and Mike McLaughlin the center. Those two juniors should be better run blockers than they were last year. The guards are question marks and are critical factors in Stanford's desire to run wide behind pulling guards.

Senior All-Pac-10 defensive end Kailee Wong (21 tackles for losses) is the big-play performer on an outstanding defensive line. Carl Hansen, a former end, is undersized (265 pounds) at tackle, but is quick enough to beat most offensive linemen for sacks. He was moved to make room for senior Bryan Werner, who's solid both against the run and rushing the passer.

An effective nose guard will be the key to the performance of the line. The graduation of 300-pounder Pete Swanson hurts because he clogged the middle, allowing Hanson and Wong to roam free. Senior Anthony Willis played there some.

Stanford has playmakers at linebacker, but lacking size, they are vulnerable against power teams. That may not hurt Stanford much in the Pac-10, but North Carolina and Notre Dame could overpower the Cardinal.

Inside linebackers Chris Draft, second-team all-conference last year, and Jon Haskins cover the field from sideline to sideline and are sure tacklers. They are the Pac-10's best linebacking pair. On the outside, junior Donnie Spragan will give the Cardinal speed.

The secondary is a problem area. The Cardinal will depend on its overall size and zone defenses to offset deficiencies in pass coverage. Three starters, the glue of the pass defense, from last season's secondary are gone.

Tim Smith, once a quarterback, has the look of an all-conference safety. His size (6–4, 220) and instincts suggest he'll be a classic free safety. Strong safety Kadar Hamilton is a hitter, but he's not fast and has not shown he can make plays. Stanford must play conservatively because the threat of getting beat deep.

Senior corners Alistair White and Corey Hill shared a starting job last season. They are merely adequate in coverage, but both are over 200 pounds and support the run well.

**7–1** Tyrone Willingham's November record the last two years. The only defeat was in '95, a 31–30 road loss in the closing seconds to Rose Bowl winner USC.

The Cardinal did not have a field goal beyond 37 yards and hopes freshman Mike Biselli will solve that problem. Kevin Miller, a senior, is an adequate punter. Dunn has returned three kickoffs for touchdowns during his career, and Walters averaged 11.2 yards on punt returns in 1996.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| WR | 80 | **Damon Dunn (Sr., 3)**; 20 Jeff Allen (Sr., 2) |
| LT | 79 | **Jeff Cronshagen (Jr., 1)**; 76 Brian Donoghue (Sr., 1) |
| LG | 63 | **Andrew Kroeker (Sr., 2)**; 66 Matt Motherway (Jr., 0) |
| C | 73 | **Mike McLaughlin (Jr., 1)**; 56 Blaine Maxfield (Sr., 0) |
| RG | 64 | Desmond Cook (Jr., 0); 67 Joe Fairchild (So., 0) |
| RT | 65 | Geoff Wilson (Sr., 2);72 Eli Burriss (Jr., 1) |
| TE | 85 | Tommy Hansen (Sr., 3); 86 Derek Hubbard (Sr., 1) |
| QB | 19 | **Chad Hutchinson (Jr., 1)**; 7 Todd Husak (So., 0) |
| FB | 34 | Greg Comella (Sr., 3); 40 Jon Ritchie (Sr., 1) |
| TB | 4 | **Anthony Bookman (Sr., 3)**; 32 Mike Mitchell (Sr., 3) |
| FL | 5 | Troy Walters (Jr., 1); 46 Aaron Focht (So., 0) |
| K | 14 | **Kevin Miller (Sr., 2)** |

### DEFENSE (6)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | 94 | **Bryan Werner (Sr., 3)**; 44 Tony Vella (Jr., 1) |
| DT | 75 | **Carl Hansen (Sr., 3)**; 99 Andrew Currie (Jr., 1) |
| NT | 51 | Anthony Willis (Sr., 2); 77 Willie Howard (So.,0) |
| DE | 13 | **Kailee Wong (Sr., 3)**; 98 Konti Pelligrin (So., 0) |
| LB | 30 | Donnie Spragan (Jr., 1); 95 Brian Toner (Jr., 1) |
| LB | 43 | **Jon Haskins (Sr., 3)**; 90 Marc Stockbauer (Jr., 1) |
| LB | 33 | **Chris Draft (Sr., 3)**; 53 Sharcus Steen (Jr., 1) |
| CB | 26 | Alistair White (Sr., 2); 29 Chris Johnson (Jr., 1) |
| CB | 17 | **Corey Hill (Sr., 3)**; 47 Frank Primus (Jr., 1) |
| SS | 24 | Kadar Hamilton (Jr., 2); 28 Charlie Dean (So., 0) |
| FS | 10 | Tim Smith (Jr., 1); 15 Eddie Patterson (So., 0) |
| P | 14 | **Kevin Miller (Sr., 2)** |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# UCLA Bruins

**Head Coach .....Bob Toledo**
**1996 Record (Pac-10)....5–6 (4–4)**
**1997 Prediction .....3rd Pac-10**
**Home Field.....Rose Bowl (100,089)**

If Bob Toledo were a realist, he would look back on his first season as head coach and shudder. Then he would look at this season's schedule and shudder again.

But Toledo is an optimist, and he sees last year as a learning experience. The Bruins lost to Stanford in the closing moments. They were playing well but were beaten by conference champion and near-national champion Arizona State in the fourth quarter. All in all, UCLA was close to a seven-win season.

Cade McNown

Peter Brouillet

Toledo sees opportunity in a schedule that has UCLA playing Tennessee and Texas back-to-back after opening at Washington State.

"These are the games guys come to UCLA to play," Toledo says.

Junior Cade McNown is the most experienced Pac-10 quarterback with 19 starts. And it's his team both by design and default.

By design, because Toledo and offensive coordinator Al Borges built the attack around McNown, taking a page from Bill Walsh's West Coast offense.

McNown raised his passing yardage from 1,698 as a freshman to 2,424 last season and lowered his running from 311 to 58 yards.

It's McNown's team by default because he is the only returning quarterback who has ever played in college.

At running back Skip Hicks spent an entire season healthy and celebrated by breaking the school touchdown record, scoring 20. A rare combination of size (222 pounds) and speed (4.5), the senior rushed for 1,034 yards and caught 21 passes for 283 more. One of those catches covered 63 yards against California, with Hicks outrunning two defensive backs to score.

Juniors Craig Walendy and Cheyane Caldwell are the fullbacks with blocking roles.

Senior Jim McElroy is a potential game breaker at receiver with 10.7-second speed in the 100 meters. A versatile player, he threw two touchdown passes on flanker reverses and also returns kicks.

The other receiver is Danny Farmer whose 31 catches led the team.

Junior tight end Mike Grieb, a sure-handed receiver, will be asked to block more.

The offensive line is a veteran unit, with every starter back. Senior Chad Overhauser, at right tackle, has the job of protecting the back of the left-handed McNown. Overhauser is the most versatile, playing at several different positions when needed. NFL scouts like him at center.

At the other tackle is sophomore Kris Farris, a giant (6–9, 300), who is working on getting the gentleness out of his game. The guards are senior Chad Sauter and junior Andy Meyers. The center is steady junior Shawn Stuart.

Defensively, UCLA was easily overpowered last season and that could be a problem again in '97. Michigan and Washington showed that flaw when they used patience and just pounded at the Bruins. Senior end Weldon Forde at 230, and senior nose guard Jeff Ruckman, who claims 245, are both undersized.

But help is on the way in the form of the identical redshirt freshman Webb twins, Micah (6–6, 264) and Josh (6–7, 264), and a new alignment that will occasionally use four down linemen. The other starting end is Darren Cline. Jason Nevadomsky and Vae Tata, both of whom are light but quick, return after sitting out last season.

Senior Brian Willmer returns to anchor the linebacking unit. He is joined by senior Danjuan Magee, who developed into a strong pass rusher from his right outside spot. Sophomore Michael Wiley played as a backup and on special teams. He is the other starter.

Safeties Shaun Williams, a senior, and junior Larry Atkins are the pride and joy of the secondary, with size and speed. Williams, in the mold of former Bruin greats Kenny Easley, Don Rogers, James Washington and Eric Turner, is "the best athlete on our team," Toledo says.

The corners are seniors Javelin Guidry and Aaron Roques, who finds himself in a battle with his sophomore brother, Ryan, for playing time. Ryan Roques has moved over from a crowded offensive backfield.

Sophomore Jason Bell and redshirt freshman Damian Allen will push for playing time and get it in passing situations. Senior Wasswa Serwanga is the roverback.

**20** The number of touchdowns scored by Skip Hicks last year, setting a school record in his first healthy season.

Junior Chris Sailer has been waiting for his turn as placekicker after spending two seasons as the punter. The transition probably won't be difficult, because Sailer has spent those seasons side-swiping the ball instead of punting through it. It's just a matter of lowering the angle on the team's strongest leg.

McElroy probably will return kickoffs, as he did in '96. The punt returner will be named in fall practice.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| SE | 87 | Dan Farmer (So., 1); 83 Brad Melsby (So., 1) |
| LT | **71** | **Kris Farris (So., 1);** 55 David Plenty Hawk (Fr., 0) |
| LG | **74** | **Chad Sauter (Sr., 3);** 73 Tony Ippolito (Fr., 0) |
| C | **52** | **Shawn Stuart (Jr., 2);** 59 Oscar Cabrera (Fr., 0) |
| RG | **78** | **Andy Meyers (Jr., 2);** 61 Sean Gully (Sr., 3) |
| RT | **69** | **Chad Overhauser (Sr., 3);** 70 Dan Cotti (Sr., 1) |
| TE | 88 | Mike Grieb (Jr., 2); 92 Tyrone Pierce (Sr., 3) |
| QB | **18** | **Cade McNown (Jr., 2);** 10 Drew Bennett (Fr., 0) |
| FB | **39** | **Craig Walendy (Jr., 2);** 49 Cheyane Caldwell (Jr., 2) |
| TB | **42** | **Skip Hicks (Sr., 3);** 1 Keith Brown (So., 1) |
| FL | **85** | **Jim McElroy (Sr., 3);** 22 Rodney Lee (Sr., 3) |
| K | 2 | Chris Sailer (Jr., 2) |

### DEFENSE (6)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | 94 | Darren Cline (Sr., 2); 75 Pete Holland (So., 1) |
| NG | **45** | **Jeff Ruckman (Sr., 3);** 58 Damon Smith (Sr., 1) |
| DE | **9** | **Weldon Forde (Sr., 2);** 41 J. Nevadomsky (Sr., 1) |
| OLB | 54 | Michael Wiley (So., 1); 43 Billy Pieper (Fr., 0) |
| MLB | **53** | **Brian Willmer (Sr., 3);** 50 B. Ayanbadejo (Jr., 1) |
| OLB | **57** | **Danjuan Magee (Sr., 3);** 36 Ramogi Huma (So., 1) |
| ROV | 11 | Wasswa Serwanga (Sr., 1); 24 DuVal Hicks (Jr., 2) |
| CB | 29 | Aaron Roques (Sr., 3); 33 Ryan Roques (So., 1) |
| CB | **3** | **Javelin Guidry (Sr., 3);** 26 Jason Bell (So., 1) |
| SS | 35 | Larry Atkins (Jr., 2); 6 Eric Whitfield (So., 1) |
| FS | **32** | **Shaun Williams (Sr., 3);** 21 Glenn Thompkins (Sr., 3) |
| P | **2** | **Chris Sailer (Jr., 2)** |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Clemson Tigers

**Head Coach** .....Tommy West
**1996 Record (ACC)**.....7–5 (6–2)
**1997 Prediction**.....3rd ACC
**Home Field**.....Frank Howard Field
81,473

Improvement has been evident throughout Tommy West's three full seasons as Clemson's football coach. The Tigers finished sixth in the Atlantic Coast Conference in 1994, third in 1995 and tied for second with North Carolina last year.

Only one higher rung remains — an ACC championship, which Clemson hasn't won since 1991. The Tigers return a record 54 lettermen, including eight starters on offense, six on defense and both kickers. Among them are five players who were first- or second-team All-ACC last year.

Raymond Priester

Courtland Richards

Senior quarterback Nealon Greene has started every game the last two seasons, with a career completion rate of 54 percent. He needs 56 completions to become the career leader in that category.

Greene completed 52.8 percent of his passes last season for 1,380 yards and eight touchdowns, with eight interceptions. He also is a running threat.

Clemson led the ACC in rushing last year and should produce another strong ground game with the return of 230–pound senior tailback Raymond Priester and almost all of the offensive line.

"Obviously, having Raymond Priester back as our all-time leading rusher is a key for us," West says.

Priester gained 1,345 yards in 12 games a year ago and averaged 5.2 yards a carry, including 32 runs of 10 yards or more. He is the only two-time 1,000-yard rusher in Clemson history.

Fullback Emory Smith finished, leaving a three-way battle to succeed him.

Senior wideout Kenya Crooks caught at least one pass in every game and led the Tigers last year with 29 catches. Senior Tony Horne is the Tigers' big-play man on offense. He tallied eight catches of at least 20 yards in just five starts a year ago and has averaged 16.8 yards for his 50-catch career.

Senior Lamont Hall caught eight passes and became the first Clemson tight end in 10 years to make the all-conference team.

This is probably the strongest area on the entire squad. Four starters return who paved the way for Priester. Two of them, senior tackle Jim Bundren and senior guard Glenn Rountree, have started 35 straight games together. Both were All-ACC in '96, and West believes a third, junior tackle Holland Postell, will be all-conference this year. Postell started every game as a sophomore, and junior guard Zane Lewis moved into the lineup late in the season.

The center will be either senior Ed Altman, who saw significant playing time until a knee injury in Game 4, or junior Jason Gamble, a junior-college All-America two years ago who redshirted last season.

On the defensive line, the only returning regular is senior nose guard Raymond White.

Senior end Tony Plantin logged four starts and four tackles for loss. Lorenzo Bromell, also a senior, recorded two sacks and inherits the other starting role.

All four linebacker starters return to anchor the defense. Junior inside linebacker Anthony Simmons "is as good as there is in the country," West raves. "Like Priester on offense, Anthony Simmons' level of consistency is just amazing. He has never had a bad game."

Last year, Simmons had at least 11 tackles in every game and set a school single-season mark with 178. Joining him on the inside is senior Mond Wilson, who had 130 stops. Simmons and Wilson became the first Clemson linebacker duo to exceed 125 tackles in the same season since 1978.

The outside linebacker position returns junior starters Adrian Dingle and Howard Bartley.

The secondary is thin in terms of numbers. Junior strong safety Antwan Edwards had a solid sophomore year, picking off two passes and returning one 58 yards. But the other three starters are gone, and only four scholarship defensive backs were on hand for spring practice.

The other three returning lettermen — junior free safety Michael Allen, sophomore cornerback DoMarco Fox and junior corner Damond Ward — have just three starts among them, all by Allen.

**106-6-2** Clemson's record over the last 20 years when it wins the turnover margin and also has more rushing yards than its opponent.

Clemson returns all its kickers. Sophomore Matt Padgett and junior Michael Brice shared placement duties. Junior Kevin Laird punted for a 37.2-yard average, but he put 24 kicks inside the 20, a single-season school record.

Horne led the Tigers with a 26.5-yard kickoff-return average. He and sophomore Justin Watts will return punts.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

**SE** **3 Kenya Crooks (Sr., 3)**; 84 Mal Lawyer (So., 1)
**LT** **79 Jim Bundren (Sr., 3)**; 61 Mark Landry (Sr., 3)
**LG** 64 Zane Lewis (Jr., 2); 71 Corey Hulsey (So., 1)
**C** 73 Jason Gamble (Jr., 0); **77 Matt Butler (Jr., 2)**
**RG** **75 Glenn Rountree (Sr., 3)**; 74 Brent Banasiewicz (Jr., 2)
**RT** **70 Holland Postell (Jr., 2)**; 68 Joedy Mitchell (So., 1)
**TE** **82 Lamont Hall (Sr., 3)**; 85 Wesley Ellis (Jr., 2)
**QB** **15 Nealon Greene (Sr., 3)**; 13 Billy Luckie (So., 1)
**FB** 48 Travis Macklin (Jr., 2); 40 Terry Witherspoon (So., 0)
**TB** **27 Raymond Priester (Sr., 3)**; 6 Sam Zanders (So., 1)
**FL** 7 Tony Horne (Sr., 3); 25 Brian Wofford (So., 1)
**K** **23 Matt Padgett (So., 1)**; 31 David Richardson (Sr., 1)

### DEFENSE (6)

**DE** 96 Tony Plantin (Sr., 3); 99 Gary Childress (Fr., 0)
**NG** **97 Raymond White (Sr., 3)**; 35 Damonte McKenzie (So., 1)
**DE** 91 Lorenzo Bromell (Sr., 1); 94 Donald Broomfield (Jr., 2)
**OLB** **52 Adrian Dingle (Jr., 2)**; 56 OJ. Childress (Jr. 2)
**ILB** **42 Mond Wilson (Sr., 3)**; 45 Harold Means (So., 1)
**ILB** **41 Anthony Simmons (Jr., 2)**; 57 Chris Jones (Jr., 2)
**OLB** **47 Howard Bartley (Jr., 2)**; 53 Rahim Abdullah (So., 1)
**CB** 12 DoMarco Fox (So., 1); 80 Phillip Ashe (So., 0)
**CB** 22 Damond Ward (Jr., 2); 25 David Evans (So., 0)
**SS** **1 Antwan Edwards (Jr., 2)**; 23 Rod Gardner (Fr., 0)
**FS** 10 Michael Allen (Jr., 2); 24 Robert Goodson (Jr., 2)
**P** **37 Kevin Laird (Jr., 2)**; 36 Michael Brice (Jr., 2)

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

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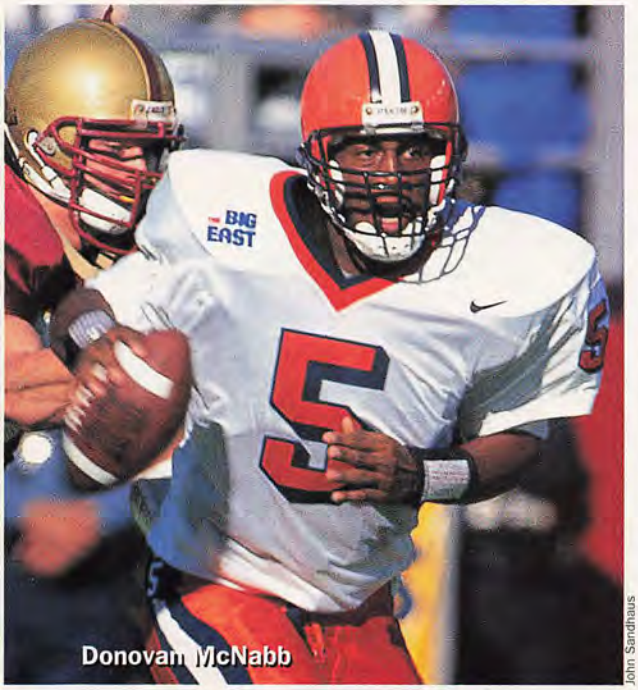
# Syracuse Orangemen

**Head Coach** .....Paul Pasqualoni
**1996 Record (Big East)**..9–3 (6–1)
**1997 Prediction** .....2nd Big East
**Home Field**.....Carrier Dome (50,000)

Slowly but surely, Syracuse is getting back to where it was in coach Paul Pasqualoni's first two seasons.

Pasqualoni & Co. went 10–2 in 1991 and again in 1992. After a couple of off years — albeit winning ones (6–4–1 in 1993, 7–4 in 1994) — Syracuse has posted consecutive 9–3 logs and stretched its unbeaten bowl record to eight (seven straight wins after a 16–16 tie with Auburn in the 1988 Sugar Bowl).



Donovan McNabb

John Sandhaus

According to Pasqualoni, who would like to see the Orangemen picked near the bottom of the Big East every year and sneak up on people, "I really believe in my heart that Syracuse has a chance to be one of the great programs in the northeast and the country. I believe we can be that way for a long time."

Even though Syracuse tied for the Big East title last year with Virginia Tech and Miami, Pasqualoni will have his work cut out this season. The Orangemen return 12 starters, but only four on defense, from a team that won nine of its last 10 games after an 0–2 start and defeated Houston 30–17 in the Liberty Bowl.

Junior quarterback Donovan McNabb would be enough to spark any team. He shared Big East Co-Offensive Player of the Year honors with Virginia Tech quarterback Jim Druckenmiller a year ago. McNabb is a combination of speed, agility, passing skills and leadership who is the perfect quarterback for Syracuse's pro-option offense. He completed 118 of 215 passes (54.9 percent) last year for 1,776 yards and rushed for 458 yards and a 4.7 per-carry average. And he makes good decisions, attested by his touchdown-to-interception ratio of 19/9.

Junior tailback Kyle McIntosh has excellent speed. He rushed for a 4.4-yard average and three touchdowns. Fullback will be manned by junior Rob Konrad. Big (6–3, 250), strong and fast, Konrad is a bruising fullback whose main function will be to clear the way for McIntosh.

Junior wide receivers Darryl Daniel and Kevin Johnson have both shown big-play capability in game action. Senior flanker Jim Turner is one of the fastest players in the Big East. He averaged 19.2 yards on 20 catches and is one of the nation's most dangerous kickoff returners.

Senior pro prospects Kaseem Sinceno and Roland Williams are considered co-starters at tight end.

Three starters — junior guard Scott Kiernan, senior guard Brent Warren and senior tackle Brad Patkochis — return to an offensive line that prides itself on run blocking. The Orangemen finished first in the Big East in rushing a year ago with 236 yards per game and 4.9 per carry.

The center position has been claimed by sophomore Cory Bowen, who started three games as a freshman. The remaining tackle vacancy will be contested by sophomores Mark Baniewicz, a converted tight end, and John Wellington.

The Orangemen finished 10th nationally in total defense and 11th in both rushing and passing defense. For 1997, however, they must replace seven starters.

Senior Jeff Danish will line up at one tackle, with junior Brian Coleman at the other. Sophomore Derrick Corley makes it a three-man rotation, still strong against the run but lacking a pass rush.

Seniors Jason Walters and Dulayne Morgan provide experience at end, but the Orangemen got only 3½ sacks and 14 quarterback pressures from the position last year.

The lone returnee at linebacker, senior Antwaune Ponds, may be one of the best around. He will be joined by redshirt freshman Marlon Greenwood and junior Stan Gibbs, who has seen the most action.

Gone are All-America cornerback Kevin Abrams and strong safety Anthony Walker; returning are senior free safety Donovin Darius and senior cornerback Rod Gadson.

Gadson will be joined at cornerback by junior Phil Nash, a big-play specialist who led the team in interceptions last year with four as the top reserve at all four DB positions. At strong safety is senior Tebucky Jones, a converted running back.

**44** One of the most storied numbers ever associated with a college football program. Since 1954, 10 players have worn the number and three have earned All-America honors — Jim Brown, 1961 Heisman Trophy-winner Ernie Davis, and Floyd Little.

Sophomore placekicker Nate Trout can handle pressure situations. Trout might handle punting duties, too.

Turner was second in the conference in kickoff returns (23 returns, 27.5-yard average). Punt returns duties might fall to sophomore wide receiver Quinton Spotwood.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

**WR** 12 Kevin Johnson (Jr., 1); 8 Quinton Spotwood (So., 1)
**LT** **66 Brad Patkochis (Sr., 2)**; 74 John Wellington (So., 0)
**LG** **61 Scott Kiernan (Jr., 2)**; 58 Frank Giufre (So., 0)
**C** **55 Cory Bowen (So., 1)**; 60 Jason Hall (Sr., 0)
**RG** **79 Brent Warren (Sr., 2)**; 67 Bill O'Donnell (So., 0)
**RT** 59 Mark Baniewicz (So., 0); 87 Stephen Brominski (So., 1)
**TE** **89 Kaseem Sinceno (Sr., 3)**; 85 Roland Williams (Sr., 3)
**QB** **5 Donovan McNabb (Jr., 2)**; 14 Keith Downing (Sr., 2)
**FB** **44 Rob Konrad (Jr., 2)**; 35 Nick Sudano (So., 0)
**TB** 28 Kyle McIntosh (Jr., 2); 6 Dee Brown (Fr., 0)
**WR** 18 Darryl Daniel (Jr., 1); 2 Ian McIntosh (Jr., 2)
**K** **36 Nathan Trout (So., 1)**

### DEFENSE (4)

**DE** **90 Jason Walters (Sr., 3)**; 95 Marc Pilon (Sr., 0)
**DT** 98 Derrick Corley (So., 0); 91 Emerson Kilgore (Fr., 0)
**DT** 78 Brian Coleman (Jr., 1); 70 Donald Dinkins (So., 0)
**DE** 56 Dulayne Morgan (Sr., 3); 30 Clifford Snell (Fr., 0)
**LB** 53 Morlon Greenwood (Fr., 0); 43 Tim Glisker (So., 0)
**LB** **50 Antwaune Ponds (Sr., 3)**; 51 Matt Klaus (So., 0)
**LB** 31 Stan Gibbs (Jr., 2); 33 Keith Bulluck (So., 1)
**CB** 10 Phil Nash (Jr., 2); 25 Will Allen (Fr., 0)
**CB** **9 Rod Gadson (Sr., 3)**; 16 Pat Woodcock (Fr., 0)
**S** **20 Donovin Darius (Sr., 3)**; 46 Vernon Banks (So., 0)
**S** 34 Tebucky Jones (Sr., 2); 7 Jason Poles (Jr., 0)
**P** 36 Nate Trout (So., 1)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* **BOLD** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# USC Trojans

**Head Coach .....John Robinson**
**1996 Record (Pac-10)....6–6 (3–5)**
**1997 Prediction .....4th Pac-10**
**Home Field.....Memorial Coliseum (92,000)**

For some reason, Southern California No. 1 in the preseason still seems a given to Trojan fans, their memories perhaps clouded, or perhaps selective. They can't seem to recall that the last time it happened was 1978.

But USC 6–6?

"This is the year of proving," says coach John Robinson. "We've got to prove to ourselves that we are a good team. Last year, we asked the offensive line to do too much. If I had it to do over again, we would have been simpler, more conservative."

Daylon McCutcheon

Paul Jasienski

The Trojans passed because they had an experienced quarterback and a young line that had trouble generating a running game. Now the experienced quarterback, Brad Otton, is gone and the run is back.

"The most-asked question is, 'Who's going to be your quarterback?' " Robinson says.

Let's see. There is sophomore Quincy Woods. He has thrown three college passes. And sophomore John Fox. He has thrown two. And redshirt freshman Mike Van Raaphorst, who has thrown none.

Woods is the favorite, but the question will persist right up to the season opener against Florida State in the Coliseum. With a new offensive coordinator in Hue Jackson, opposing defensive coordinators are going to watch a lot of USC-Florida State game film to figure out what's going on with the Trojans.

A hint to those coordinators: Watch 20-year-old USC game film.

Though Robinson talks often of offensive balance, his eyes light up at a return to the running game at USC, which means senior Delon Washington gets a chance to redeem himself. Washington will be the starter for the third season in a row, and if he shows that his discipline problems are behind him, Robinson has the player he wants to run the vaunted Student Body Left sweep.

Senior LaVale Woods plays both tailback and fullback and will push Washington, as will Jabari Jackson, a junior college transfer, and sophomore Petros Papadakis. Senior Rodney Sermons is the fullback, with pass-catching ability. He's the top returning pass-catcher on the team.

Junior Mike Bastianelli is a possession receiver, and Billy Miller, also a junior, is a speedster who suffered too many dropped balls. Senior Larry Parker played well in spring drills. Sophomore R. Jay Soward also struggled with dropped passes but, when he caught the ball, was one of the most exciting Trojans on the field. Soward's achievements included a school-record 97-yard touchdown pass and kickoff returns for TDs against Arizona State (98 yards) and Washington State (78).

Tight end has no experience. Junior Rickman, a senior, has never caught a college pass. Junior Marvin Powell III has been moved from fullback in an effort to get him on the field more.

Sophomore Mark Manskar, unable to hold the weight needed to play inside, is being moved to tight end, where his frame and blocking ability offer potential.

The line returns intact and averages 6–5½, 307 pounds, lending credence to the belief that this season the Trojans will run.

The guards are senior Chris Brymer and sophomore Travis Claridge, the tackles junior Ken Bowen and senior Phalen Pounds. The center is senior Jonathan Himebauch, at 295 the only sub 300-pounder up front.

The defensive line was hit by the defection of tackle Darrell Russell to the NFL, leaving senior end George Perry as the only returnee with significant playing time. He will be joined at end by sophomore Aaron Williams. The tackles are senior Cedric Jefferson, who started five games before injury problems downed him, and junior Marc Matock.

USC ran defenses to feature the tackles when Russell and Matt Keneley were around. Now, they will sacrifice the tackles to provide plays for the inside linebackers.

Inside linebacker Chris Claiborne quickly established himself last season as a freshman. With instinct and size, he is the cornerstone of the unit. Junior Mark Cusano also returns in the middle. The outside linebackers are senior Ryan Tyiska, who moved up from backup rover, and sophomore David Gibson.

**4.7** The average number of pass and kickoff catches USC's R. Jay Soward needed to score a touchdown last year.

Daylon McCutcheon, a junior cornerback, is an All-America candidate who may yet play a role on offense. Senior Brian Kelly moves back to corner from free safety. At strong safety will be junior Rashard Cook or senior Grant Pearsall. Chad Morton, a sophomore, will get playing time at cornerback and free safety, often going on the field in five- or six-back passing situations.

Adam Abrams is an experienced placekicker who made 13 of 21 attempts. Senior punter Jim Wren was seventh in the country with a 45.6-yard average and 21 inside the opponent's 20. Morton will return punts.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| WR | 3 | Billy Miller (Jr., 2); 25 Mike Bastianelli (Jr., 2) |
| LT | 73 | Phalen Pounds (Sr., 2); **78 Rome Douglas (Jr., 2)** |
| LG | **67** | **Chris Brymer (Sr., 2)**; 62 David Pratchard (Jr., 2) |
| C | **56** | **Jonathan Himebauch (Sr., 3)**; 61 Matt McShane (So., 0) |
| RG | **71** | **Travis Claridge (So., 1)**; 77 Trevor Roberts (Fr., 0) |
| RT | **74** | **Ken Bowen (Jr., 2)**; 79 Grant Boelter (Sr., 1) |
| TE | **15** | **Junior Rickman (Sr., 2)**; 63 Mark Manskar (So., 0) |
| QB | 9 | Quincy Woods (So., 0); 4 John Fox (So., 0) |
| FB | 5 | Rodney Sermons (Sr., 3); **30 LaVale Woods (Sr., 3)** |
| TB | **24** | **Delon Washington (Sr., 3)**; 27 Jabari Jackson (Jr., 0) |
| WR | 18 | R. Jay Soward (So., 1); 80 Larry Parker (Sr., 3) |
| K | **19** | **Adam Abrams (Jr., 2)** |

### DEFENSE (6)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | **88** | **George Perry (Sr., 3)**; 6 Shamsud-Din Shaheed (Fr., 0) |
| DT | 95 | Marc Matock (Jr., 1); 99 Ennis Davis (Fr., 0) |
| DT | 97 | Cedric Jefferson (Sr., 3); 52 Dennis Tolbert (Sr., 0) |
| DE | 57 | Aaron Williams (So., 1); 56 Lawrence Larry (Jr., 2) |
| LB | 27 | David Gibson (So., 1); 35 Taso Papadakis (Sr., 2) |
| LB | **55** | **Chris Claiborne (So., 1)**; **4 Mark Cusano (Jr., 2)** |
| LB | 34 | Ryan Tyiska (Sr., 3); 40 Bob Aubrey (Jr. 2) |
| CB | **42** | **Brian Kelly (Sr., 3)**; 14 Prentice Hill (Jr., 2) |
| CB | **1** | **Daylon McCutcheon (Jr., 2)**; 23 Anthony Volsan (Sr., 3) |
| SS | 8 | Rashard Cook (Jr., 2); **43 Grant Pearsall (Sr., 3)** |
| FS | 7 | Chad Morton (So., 1); 26 Darnell Lacy (So., 1) |
| P | **17** | **Jim Wren (Sr., 1)** |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# BYU Cougars

**Head Coach** .....LaVell Edwards
**1996 Record (WAC)** .....14–1 (8–0)
**1997 Prediction** .....1st WAC Mountain
**Home Field**.....Cougar Stadium (65,000)

LaVell Edwards' Cougars won 14 games last year, the most ever in modern times in Division I-A. For one thing, they played more games than anybody thanks to a Pigskin Classic appearance, a trip to Hawaii that allows an extra game by an NCAA rule, participation in the inaugural WAC championship game and the Cotton Bowl.

Edwards cannot possibly duplicate that season, because BYU can play at most 13 games. But the Cougars do a have a chance to avenge their only loss of a year ago when they host Washington in the opener.

Omarr Morgan

Paul Jasienski

Atypical at BYU, the running game developed last season to the point that Steve Sarkisian was asked to throw only 12 passes against the Utah blitz last November. That's definitely out of the ordinary. The Cougars will always depend on the quarterback, but the running support will make life more comfortable for sophomore Kevin Feterik or junior Paul Shoemaker. One will be the next in line at Quarterback U.

The left-handed Feterik is an accurate passer who stays in the pocket. Shoemaker, whose career started in 1992 prior to a church mission, is less precise but more mobile.

As for the running game, for BYU runners to gain 376 yards, they would seemingly have to stay after the game after everybody else went home and have a coach hand them the ball. Against Utah, Cougar backs got the ball all right, with Brian McKenzie and Ronney Jenkins doing the bulk of the damage.

McKenzie just missed a rare 1,000-yard BYU rushing season. The long season cheapened his numbers somewhat, but that was offset by his sharing the position with Jenkins. As a freshman, Jenkins gave the Cougars speed they've been lacking in the backfield.

Senior fullback Dustin Johnson was vital to the offense when one of BYU's tight ends was injured. Johnson caught seven passes against Wyoming in the WAC title game.

The Cougars lost their top two receivers but nobody is worried. BYU has a history of finding capable replacements, plugging them into the scheme and having them catch 50 or 60 passes. Senior Ben Cahoon played enough to grab 14 receptions. He's not fast, just effective in a precise system of routes.

Tight end is a problem. Sophomore John Moala is next in line but coaches worry about weight. He's listed at 300 pounds even after spending the winter with the Cougar basketball team.

Along the offensive line, junior Curt Cannon comes to the middle from tackle to play center. Junior tackle Eric Bateman and sophomore tackle John Tait are "just phenomenal," says Utah defensive coordinator Kyle Whittingham. The rival coach especially likes the 6–7, 290-pound Tait's mobility, a trait that distinguished last year's Cougar line.

Senior Matt Cox is a solid guard. The other guard will be Jason Andersen, a senior.

The Cougars lost Henry Bloomfield, a dominating defensive tackle, but received an unexpected bonus when junior Daren Yancey moved from end to tackle and played well in the Cotton Bowl. Yancey will stay inside, joining senior Harland Ah You, the player he replaced against Kansas State because of an injury. The ends are sophomore Byron Frisch, whose speed makes him a potential force, and junior Ed Kehl.

BYU will miss Shay Muirbrook, an undersized player who was remarkably productive at middle linebacker. Besides easily leading the team in unassisted tackles, he recorded nine sacks and three interceptions.

Converted fullback Rob Morris and heavyweight wrestler Jeff Ellis give defensive coordinator Ken Schmidt two athletic alternatives to replace Muirbrook.

The strong-side linebacker is Spencer Reid. Weak-side linebacker Brad Martin posted six sacks and nine tackles for losses.

Cornerbacks Omarr Morgan and the departed Tim McTyer made Schmidt look like a defensive mastermind. The WAC's No. 1 defense shut out Rice and allowed only one of the last seven opponents as many as 21 points.

Morgan returns after leading BYU with four interceptions. The other corner is senior Ben Cook, who played as the nickel back.

**78** Each of BYU's starting offensive linemen stands at least 78 inches tall — that's 6–6 to you and me.

Senior Chris Ellison, the strong safety, led the returnees in total tackles. Junior Jason Walker started six games at free safety.

The Cougars will greatly miss James Dye, who returned five punts and kickoffs for touchdowns the last two seasons. Jenkins actually handled more kickoff returns and for a better average (27.9 yards) than Dye.

After Ethan Pochman tied and then won the WAC title game in overtime with field goals, he leaves the job to his brother, Owen, a freshman. Junior college transfer J.D. Hartsfield will punt.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

| | |
|---|---|
| **WR** | 86 Ben Cahoon (Sr., 1); 28 Ben Horton (Fr., 0) |
| **RT** | **73 Eric Bateman (Jr., 2)**; Hau'oli "Joe" Wong (Jr., 0) |
| **RG** | **76 Matt Cox (Sr., 3)**; 78 Greg Hoagland (Sr., 1) |
| **C** | 64 Curt Cannon (Jr., 1); Matt Johnson (Jr., 0) |
| **LG** | **79 Jason Andersen (Sr., 2)**; 66 Jim Richards (So., 1) |
| **LT** | **75 John Tait (So., 1)**; 65 Ben Archibald (Fr., 0) |
| **TE** | 84 John Maola (So., 1); 5 Nate Foreman (So., 1) |
| **QB** | 19 Paul Shoemaker (Jr., 2); Kevin Feterik (So., 0) |
| **RB** | **32 Dustin Johnson (Sr., 2)**; Kalani Fifita (Fr., 0) |
| **RB** | **20 Brian McKenzie (Sr., 1)**; 16 Ronney Jenkins (So., 1) |
| **WR** | 17 Aaron Roderick (Jr., 0); 83 Margin Hooks (Fr., 0) |
| **K** | 6 Owen Pochman (Fr., 0); Kirk Schroeder (So., 0) |

### DEFENSE (9)

| | |
|---|---|
| **DE** | **56 Ed Kehl (Jr., 2)**; 94 Andrew Nash (So., 1) |
| **DT** | **97 Daren Yancey (Jr., 2)**; 77 Issiah Magalei (Jr., 1) |
| **DT** | **90 Harland Ah You (Sr., 2)**; 72 Hance Olsen (Fr., 0) |
| **DE** | **93 Byron Frisch (So., 1)**; Carlos Nuno (So., 0) |
| **LB** | **41 Spencer Reid (Sr., 3)**; 35 Donny Atuaia (So., 1) |
| **LB** | 47 Rob Morris (So., 1); 49 Jeff Ellis (Jr., 2) |
| **LB** | **10 Brad Martin (Jr., 2)**; 31 Desmond Lomax (So., 1) |
| **CB** | **1 Omarr Morgan (Sr., 1)**; 28 Jason Straw (Sr., 1) |
| **CB** | 30 Ben Cook (Sr., 2); Dereck Dorsey (Fr., 0) |
| **SS** | **4 Chris Ellison (Sr., 1)**; 18 Derick Bates (Jr., 2) |
| **FS** | **2 Jason Walker (Jr., 2)**; 29 Tyler Nelson (So., 1) |
| **P** | J.D. Hartsfield (Jr., 0); Jesse Sowards (So., 0) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Ore Ida® ALL-STAR LINEUP

## Join the Winning Team!

# Virginia Cavaliers

**Head Coach** .....George Welsh
**1996 Record (ACC)**.....7–5 (5–3)
**1997 Prediction**.....4th ACC
**Home Field**.....Scott Stadium (40,000)

Virginia coach George Welsh has fixed ailing programs during his two head coaching jobs. He is the winningest coach at both schools: Navy (55–46–1, nine years) and Virginia (160–114–4, 15 seasons).

Virginia had been the whipping boy of the Atlantic Coast Conference with just two winning seasons in 29 years before Welsh arrived.

In 1997, Welsh will have a maintenance job to do. The last 10 seasons have been winning ones, all with at least seven victories, but the Cavaliers must replace 13 starters, six on offense and seven on defense, plus an outstanding pair of kickers. Gone are the Barber twins — Tiki, Virginia's all-time rushing leader (3,389 yards), and Ronde, the only cornerback ever to make the All-ACC first team as a freshman, sophomore and junior. He gave up his senior year for the NFL.

Aaron Brooks

Bill Wood

Virginia will be tested early. The Cavaliers open against Auburn and Game 3 is against North Carolina, the ACC favorite.

Virginia has scored more than 300 points in each of the last eight seasons, an ACC record, but the entire starting backfield graduated. Junior quarterback Aaron Brooks, who saw action in every game, inherits the job. Brooks is very athletic. His three rushing touchdowns in '96 tied for second on the team and also tied for second among ACC quarterbacks, and he wasn't even a starter. Welsh believes he will be productive throwing the ball. The Cavaliers did not throw a scoring pass the last four games, going 128 attempts without one.

Despite the losses of ACC Player of the Year Tiki Barber and fullback Darrell Medley, the Cavs are optimistic about having a solid running game. Sophomore Thomas Jones, the heir-apparent at tailback, was a consensus high school All-American in 1995 and is the top returning rusher with 205 yards on 36 carries. Senior Charles Kirby becomes the starting fullback.

Brooks will benefit from the return of both wide receivers. Senior Germane Crowell, who is tall (6–4) and swift, established himself as a clutch receiver, averaging 20.8 yards on 33 catches, 31 of which went for first downs or touchdowns. Senior Bryan Owen, a possession receiver, had 22 catches for 390 yards.

Casey Crawford, a big target (6–6, 235), averaged almost 18 yards on four catches as a backup tight end.

Senior holdovers Doug Karczewski and Julius Williams at tackle and Trevor Britton at guard provide leadership on a line that opened up 193.7 rushing yards per game, second-best in the ACC. Sophomore Noel LaMontagne and junior Fady Chamoun have experience at guard. Senior Matt Link is the most likely starter at center.

The Cavaliers ranked 15th nationally in total defense, 16th against the run, and set a school record with 40 sacks. Just four starters return and junior tackle Tony Dingle is the only one back on the line. Last year against Maryland, Dingle became the first Virginia defensive lineman to return an interception for a score since 1972. Junior Johnny Shivers and sophomore Maurice Anderson will compete at the other tackle.

The favorites at end are junior Patrick Kerney and sophomore Travis Griffith, both of whom are battle-tested, weigh around 230-235 pounds and can move.

The brilliant outside linebacking duo of Jamie Sharper and James Farrior is gone. Both were drafted among the first 34 players. It would be an understatement to say there will be a drop-off in this area.

Junior Wali Rainer played in the middle, but at 209 pounds, he probably will move outside. Sophomore Dillon Taylor weighs 243 and should be in the middle. The race for the third linebacker is wide open.

The Cavaliers have intercepted at least 20 passes in each of the last four seasons, although their NCAA-record streak of 39 games with an interception ended against Virginia Tech in the regular-season finale. Junior Anthony Poindexter, a ferocious hitter, and senior Stephen Phelan were the starters at strong and free safety respectively. Poindexter led all ACC defensive backs with 98 tackles, tying Lester Lyles' school record for a DB. He also had four interceptions, two fumble recoveries and blocked two kicks.

**3** The number of league wins George Welsh needs to become the winningest coach in ACC history. He has 64, two behind Clemson's legendary Frank Howard.

The return of junior safety Adrian Burnim, back after a year away from football, could push Phelan to cornerback. Senior Joe Williams started the season opener at safety and the Carquest Bowl at cornerback. Sophomore Antwan Harris' 95-yard interception return against North Carolina was Virginia's biggest play of the season.

The probable successors to award-winning kickers Will Brice and Rafael Garcia are senior punter Frank Rotella and junior placekicker Whitney Magers.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

**WR** **17 Germane Crowell (Sr., 2)**; 2 Demetrius Dotson (So., 1)
**LT** **79 Doug Karczewski (Sr., 2)**; Tony Agee (Jr., 2)
**LG** 77 Noel LaMontagne (So., 0); 57 Fady Chamoun (Jr., 0)
**C** 75 Matt Link (Sr., 1); 82 John St. Clair (So., 1)
**RG** **63 Trevor Britton (Sr., 2)**; 70 George Seals (So., 0)
**RT** **56 Julius Williams (Sr., 2)**; 71 Brad Barnes (Fr., 0)
**TE** 86 Casey Crawford (So., 1); 84 Adam Westcott (Fr., 0)
**QB** 11 Aaron Brooks (Jr., 1); Antawan Holmes (Jr., 1 )
**FB** 36 Charles Kirby (Sr., 3); 25 Anthony Southern (So., 1)
**TB** 6 Thomas Jones (So., 1); 4 Will Thompson (So., 0)
**WR** **29 Bryan Owen (Sr., 2)**; 28 Terrence Wilkins (Jr., 2)
**K** 83 Whitney Magers (Jr., 0)

### DEFENSE (4)

**DE** 95 Travis Griffith (So., 1); 9 Shannon Taylor (So., 1)
**DT** **89 Tony Dingle (Jr., 2)**; 55 Kofi Bawuah (Fr., 0)
**DT** 99 Johnny Shivers (Jr., 2); 85 Maurice Anderson (So., 1)
**DE** 58 Patrick Kerney (Jr., 2); 39 Andreas Karelis (So., 1)
**LB** 45 Andre McNeal (Jr., 2); 40 Marcus Bullett (So., 1)
**LB** **44 Wali Rainer (Jr., 2)**; 47 Jami'h Rainer (So., 1)
**LB** 30 Dillon Taylor (So., 1); 46 Kirk Willett (Jr., 2)
**CB** 23 Joe Williams (Sr., 3); 20 Travis Blount (Fr., 0)
**CB** 26 Antwan Harris (So., 1); 5 Dwayne Stukes (So., 1)
**SS** **3 Anthony Poindexter (Jr., 2)**; 22 Wale Elegbe (So., 1)
**FS** **49 Stephen Phelan (Sr., 3)**; Adrian Burnim (Jr., 1)
**P** 90 Frank Rotella (Sr., 1)

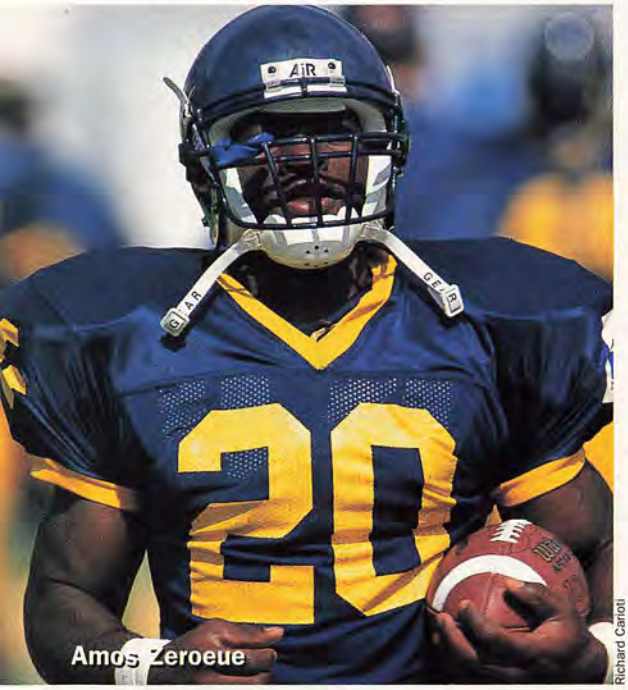
*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# West Virginia Mountaineers

**Head Coach** .....Don Nehlen
**1996 Record (Big East)**..8–4 (4–3)
**1997 Prediction** .....3rd Big East
**Home Field**.....Mountaineer Field (63,500)

It was the finest defensive unit in West Virginia coach Don Nehlen's 17-year tenure, although the Mountaineers finished only 8–4. They led the nation in total defense (217.5 yards a game) and finished second in rushing defense (61.5), fourth in scoring defense (12.4) and fifth in pass efficiency defense.

But they lost six starters on that side of the ball, so naturally Nehlen's prime concern is finding defensive replacements. Wrong. He's searching for a quarterback, one of three openings on offense. The Mountaineers committed fewer turnovers (10) than any other team in the country in 1996, and that will be a tough act to follow with a new quarterback.


Amos Zereoue

Richard Carioti

"The whole key for us will be the quarterback position," Nehlen says. "This team might face as tough a schedule as any I've coached. I've never had a team that had to play a road schedule like this one: Notre Dame, Syracuse, Miami, Maryland, Boston College."

Replacing Chad Johnston will be no snap. He ranked among the top three in five West Virginia passing categories.

The position is sophomore Marc Bulger's to lose. Bulger appeared in six games behind Johnston a year ago, passing for 352 yards (third all-time for a West Virginia freshman) and three touchdowns. Bulger has average speed and a strong arm.

The most intriguing candidate for the job is 6–6, 235-pound sophomore Bobby Sabelhaus, once regarded as the heir apparent to Danny Wuerffel at Florida. Sabelhaus transferred to Pierce Junior College in Woodland Hills, Calif., although he didn't play football there.

"I was supposed to be the starting quarterback at Florida this coming season," Sabelhaus says, "so it was a lot to give up. But I just didn't feel comfortable there."

According to Sabelhaus, Florida coach Steve Spurrier ordered him to learn a thick playbook between the end of the 1995 season and the start of spring practice last year, and tried to change his throwing motion, which has always been somewhat sidearm.

Sabelhaus was a high school All-American in 1994 and holds Maryland prep records with 5,911 passing yards and 371 completions.

Sophomore tailback Amos Zereoue, 1996 Big East Rookie of the Year. outgained each of West Virginia's first seven opponents before he was slowed with a painful turf toe injury. Zereoue ran for 1,035 yards, eighth-best in school history, and his 10 touchdowns set a freshman rushing record.

At fullback, senior Leroy White hopes to bounce back after missing most of last season with a knee injury. White is a punishing blocker and possesses tailback speed.

Two of the top three wideouts return, led by junior David Saunders, who set school records with 76 receptions for 1,043 yards and was the Big East's leading receiver. Also returning is junior Shawn Foreman, who had 25 receptions covering 415 yards.

The Mountaineers return their top two tight ends in senior Chad Wable and sophomore Anthony Becht.

The offensive line allowed 34 sacks in 378 pass attempts and paved the way for a sixth-place finish in Big East rushing. But it returns eight lettermen, five with starting experience. Sophomore tackle Solomon Page, senior tackle Sam Austin, junior guard Bryan Pukenas and junior center Eric de Groh started all season.

Although three of four starters return up front, the Mountaineers lost pass-rusher extraordinaire Canute Curtis, the Big East Defensive Player of the Year.

The runner-up to Curtis' team-leading 16½ sacks was senior end Bob Baum with six. Senior Henry Slay had 10 tackles for loss. Junior nose tackle John Thornton and junior end Kevin Landolt round out a stout frontal defense.

**69** The number of yards freshman tailback Amos Zereoue ran for a touchdown against Pitt on his very first varsity carry.

Seniors John Hadley and Jason Williams return at middle linebacker. Hadley recorded 57 tackles, three sacks, two pass breakups and two tackles for loss. Williams returned a key interception 39 yards in the 10–9 win over East Carolina. Junior Gary Stills, who lines up at rush linebacker, is the man with the unenviable task of replacing Curtis.

The lone returning regular in the secondary is sophomore cornerback Perlo Bastien, who had 30 tackles, four interceptions and eight pass breakups.

Sophomore placekicker Jay Taylor made 15 of 24 field-goal attempts after winning the job from senior Bryan Baumann. And Baumann is still a possibility at punter.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

SE 16 Shawn Foreman (Jr., 2); 18 Ken Fisher (Sr., 3)
**LT 77 Solomon Page (So., 1)**; 66 Frank Birts (Sr., 2)
LG 62 Steve Ford (Jr., 1); 60 Randy Dunnigan (Jr., 2)
**C 67 Eric de Groh (Jr., 2)** 74 Bill McElroy (Sr., 2)
**RG 61 Bryan Pukenas (Jr., 1)**; 69 Brock Holland (Sr., 0)
**RT 65 Sam Austin (Sr., 2)**; 66 Frank Birts (Sr., 2)
**TE 87 Chad Wable (Sr., 1)**; 82 Anthony Becht (So., 1)
QB 10 Marc Bulger (So., 1); Bobby Sabelhaus (So., 0)
FB 34 Leroy White (Sr., 2); 49 Anthony Green (So., 1)
**RB 20 Amos Zereoue (So., 1)**; 28 Curtis Keaton (So., 0)
**FL 6 David Saunders (Jr., 2)**; 18 Ken Fisher (Sr., 3)
**K 47 Jay Taylor (So., 1)**; 7 Bryan Baumann (Sr., 3)

### DEFENSE (5)

**DE 45 Bob Baum (Sr., 3)**; 98 Kevin Landolt (Jr., 2)
**NT 96 John Thornton (Jr., 2)**; 50 Steve Lippe (Sr., 3)
**DT 78 Henry Slay (Sr., 3)**; 54 Charlton Forbes (Jr., 1)
LB 1 Damon Cogdell (Jr., 0); 38 K.C. Schiller (Jr. 1)
LB 55 Gary Stills (Jr., 1); 43 Ryan Brady (So., 0)
**LB 44 Jason Williams (Sr., 3)**; 52 John Hadley (Sr., 1)
LB 48 Jamie Sweeney (Sr., 2); 50 Steve Lippe (Sr., 2)
**CB 3 Perlo Bastien (So., 1)**; 27 Kerry Siverand (Sr., 1)
CB 4 Charles Fisher (Jr., 2); 35 Dave Lightcap (Jr., 0)
SS 33 Barrett Green (So., 1); 28 Anton Anderson (So., 1)
FS 12 Gregory Hernandez (Jr., 1); 11 Gary Thompkins (So., 1)
P **7 Bryan Baumann (Sr., 3)**; 31 Jade Stillings (Sr., 0)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Kansas State Wildcats

**Head Coach** .....Bill Snyder
**1996 Record (Big 12)** ....9–3 (6–2)
**1997 Prediction** .....3rd Big 12 North
**Home Field**.....KSU Stadium (42,000)

By now, it should be evident that Bill Snyder's program is in for the long haul. Kansas State has the endorsement of an authority on sustained success, Nebraska coach Tom Osborne.

"This is not a fluky thing," Osborne says. "It's a solid program."

Since 1993, Snyder's Wildcats have a combined record of 37–10–1 with four consecutive bowl appearances. The problem is, Big 12 North-Division rivals Nebraska and Colorado have compiled slightly better records. In Snyder's eight seasons, Kansas State has yet to defeat either team.

Travis Ochs

Layne Murdoch

Kansas State must replace key players on both sides of the ball, including All-America cornerback Chris Canty, who has bypassed his senior season in favor of the NFL.

The Wildcats will have their fourth starting quarterback in as many seasons, following the departure of Brian Kavanagh. The choice will probably be sophomore Jonathan Beasley, who could provide Snyder with some stability at the position for the next three seasons.

Beasley is more athletic and mobile than his predecessor and will be a threat to run as well as pass. He played in eight games as a true freshman, with his best performance coming against Nebraska.

Beasley replaced Kavanagh for the final play of the third quarter, a third-and-4 situation, and immediately made his presence felt by eluding the Cornhusker pass rush and gaining 6 yards. He carried four more times, finishing with 40 yards.

Kansas State has improved its running game, utilizing more two-back sets to take pressure off the quarterback. Even so, the Wildcats need to get better. They ranked last in the Big 12 and 75th nationally in rushing offense, averaging only 135.9 yards per game.

The return of senior Eric Hickson, who was lost last season because of a broken leg, will help. Hickson not only averaged 5.2 yards per carry as a sophomore, but he's also an emotional leader. Senior Mike Lawrence picked up the load, rushing for 982 yards and 10 touchdowns. He was second on the team in pass receptions with 27 for 173 yards.

Junior fullback Brian Goolsby is athletic enough that a year ago there was talk he might be used on defense as well as offense. He even practiced some with the defensive ends.

Senior Andre Anderson, a converted running back, is the best of the returning receivers. He was third on the team in receptions, with 23 for 309 yards and five touchdowns. Junior Troy Hackney caught only two passes, one of which (from Beasley) was good for 57 yards and a touchdown, the season's longest.

Senior tight end Jarrett Grosdidier is a threat to catch the ball as well as block.

The offensive line was regarded by some as the best in school history. But this season's front could be better. Three bowl-game starters return, including tackles Todd Weiner, a senior, junior Ryan Young, and junior guard Jeremy Martin. Senior Kendyl Jacox also started the season before he suffered a leg injury.

The Wildcats are thin on the defensive line, where senior tackle Jerome Evans is the only returning starter. Evans had 12 tackles-for-losses among his 80 tackles, 2½ sacks and two fumble recoveries as a junior.

Sophomore Damion McIntosh has everything but experience. Sophomore Darren Howard, who could develop into one of the better pass rushers in the Big 12, missed spring practice because of a knee sprain.

**45,000** The estimated number of Kansas State fans who made the trip to Dallas for the Wildcats' Cotton Bowl game against BYU last Jan. 1.

With returning starters Travis Ochs, a junior, and Mark Simoneau, a sophomore, the linebackers are as experienced as the line is inexperienced. Ochs was a candidate for the Butkus Award. He's not big but he's very active and athletic.

Simoneau was the coaches' choice as conference "Freshman Defensive Player of the Year" after finishing second on the team in tackles with 111. He also had 3½ sacks and 11 tackles for losses, and he broke up eight passes.

Senior cornerback Demetric Denmark is the only returning starter from the bowl game. He started the final three regular-season games after Joe Gordon was sidelined by a leg injury. Denmark, who broke up 14 passes, has sprinter's speed.

Sophomores Lamar Chapman and Lin Dotson played some, as did senior Monty Spiller. But the Wildcats must look for help.

Junior James Garcia was third in the Big 12, averaging 44.3 yards per punt. He was just short of the school record (44.7). Junior placekicker Martin Gramatica returns after missing last season because of a knee injury. Gramatica has made 13-of-19 field goals.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

**WR** 88 Troy Hackney (Jr., 1); 83 Everett Burnett (Jr., 0)
**LT** **75 Todd Weiner (Sr., 2)**; 63 Ryan Cummings (Fr., 0)
**LG** **78 Jeremy Martin (Jr., 2)**; 60 Mike Munson (Jr., 0)
**C** **74 Kendyl Jacox (Sr., 3)**; 69 Brian Nabours (Jr., 0)
**RG** 70 Ian Moses (So., 1); 65 David McIntyre (Jr., 1)
**RT** **76 Ryan Young (Jr., 2)**; 59 Grant Reves (Fr., 0)
**TE** **82 Jarrett Grosdidier (Sr, 3)**; 86 Justin Swift (Jr., 2)
**QB** 18 Jonathan Beasley (So., 1); 19 Adam Helm (So., 1)
**FB** 30 Brian Goolsby (Jr., 2); 27 Matt Gangwish (Sr., 1)
**TB** **20 Mike Lawrence (Sr., 3)**; 21 Marlon Charles (Jr., 1)
**WR** **25 Andre Anderson (Sr., 2)**; 85 DeAndrae Robinson (Jr., 0)
**K** **15 Jamie Rheem (So., 1)**; 10 Martin Gramatica (Jr., 0)

### DEFENSE (4)

**DE** 53 Mike Bush (Jr., 1); 96 Nilijah McCoy (Jr., 0)
**DT** 77 Damion McIntosh (So., 1); 91 Ben Jimenez (So., 0)
**DT** **98 Jerome Evans (Sr., 1)**; 46 Joe Bob Clements (Jr., 2)
**DE** 49 Darren Howard (So., 1); 43 Travis Litton (So., 0)
**LB** **50 Travis Ochs (Jr., 2)**; 5 David Conley (Jr., 2)
**LB** 41 Turelle Williams (So., 1); 51 Casey Wehrman (Sr., 2)
**LB** **42 Mark Simoneau (So., 1)**; 32 Derek King (Jr., 2)
**CB** 29 Demetric Denmark (Sr., 1); 35 Dyshod Carter (Fr., 0)
**CB** 2 Keith Black (Jr., 0); 34 Adrian Beard (Fr., 0)
**SS** 9 Monty Spiller (Sr., 2); 40 Jarrod Cooper (Fr., 0)
**FS** **17 Lamar Chapman (So., 1)**; 14 Lin Dotson (So., 1)
**P** **16 James Garcia (Jr., 2)**

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

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# Colorado State Rams

Head Coach .....Sonny Lubick
1996 Record (WAC) .....7–5 (6–2)
1997 Prediction .....1st WAC Pacific
Home Field.....Hughes Stadium (30,000)

Ninety-six yards, 14 plays. If Colorado State could have stopped Wyoming at any point on the field, the Rams would have completed a stunning run in the second half of the season, going all the way to the WAC championship game. Instead, Wyoming drove to the winning touchdown in the last two minutes to claim the Pacific Division title.

Moses Moreno

John Betancourt

Months later, Colorado State defensive coordinator Larry Kerr reviewed the game film and marveled at how well his group played that day. "We just could not make a play on the last drive," he said.

Knowing how close they came, the Rams are eager to take another shot. With 17 returning starters, Colorado State should play for the division championship Nov. 22 at San Diego State.

Coach Sonny Lubick usually scoffs at suggestions that his program is becoming a WAC power, but look at the record: The Rams have won 25 games in the last three years and are 28–11 since the start of November in 1993, Lubick's first season.

Quarterback was a question mark last season, but senior Moses Moreno is now one of the WAC's top passers.

"The thing that impressed me about Moreno was that he was a lot slipperier than I thought," says Air Force defensive coordinator Cal McCombs. "We thought we had him sacked a couple of times, but he got away and made a great throw."

Moreno took over the starting job midway through his sophomore season and has thrived in the Rams' balanced offense.

The Rams use a one-back offensive scheme, making the fact they had two 1,000-yard rushers last season all the more remarkable. Calvin Branch is gone after gaining nearly 1,300 yards, but junior Damon Washington recorded 1,075 yards despite missing two games with injuries. Washington has nine career 100-yard games.

Junior Jaime Blake was also in the rotation until being injured, and junior college transfer Brian Singleton should contribute.

Iowa State transfer Geoff Turner was a major discovery last year, leading the Rams with 52 receptions. Veteran Paul Turner, who was sidelined, also returns.

Junior college transfer Darren Wall could fit into the three-receiver package, along with senior Terrence Zenno.

Senior Eli Workman has shared tight end duties. The Rams need another player to develop because they frequently employ two tight ends.

The offensive line helped the Rams easily break a school record by averaging 458 yards. Four starters return, led by junior strong guard Anthony Cesario. Junior center Mike Newell is quick in the middle of the line, and senior Eric Bailey is adequate at strong tackle. On the weak side, seniors Josh Dansereau and Steve Dundee, and sophomore Blane Saipaia will play in some combination.

The Rams list nine returning defensive starters, which is not necessarily great, considering that they ranked 14th in the WAC in total defense.

"The last five or six games, we started to play like the defense here has in the past," says Kerr.

Sophomore end Clark Haggans will merit more playing time after making 10 tackles for losses as a reserve. At the other end, Adrian Ross recorded 7½ sacks and made the All-Pacific team in a division not loaded with outstanding linemen.

At tackle, sophomore Rob Cieslinski returns after missing the last seven games with an injury. Sophomore Greg Pollard missed last season with a knee injury.

Junior Willie Taylor moved from outside linebacker to the middle and led the Rams with nearly 12 total tackles a game. He may move back outside, if junior Eric Vaughn or sophomore Ula Tuitele, who had to play end last year, proves worthy.

**.750** Sonny Lubick owns a .750 winning percentage in WAC games, with a 24–8 record. A three-game winning streak at the end of his first year turned the program around.

The Rams are in good shape at outside linebacker with steady junior Nate Kvamme, who recorded 10 tackles a game, and sophomore Rick Crowell.

Junior Myron Terry and sophomore Erik Olson are decent safeties, along with sophomore Kevin McDougal, who also played as a running back.

Senior Eason Ramson made progress as a junior college transfer at cornerback and broke up 13 passes. Senior Brady Schneider started 10 games.

Lubick reluctantly spends scholarships on placekickers, but he willingly recruited C.W. Hurst, a high school kicker from Texas.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| WR | 1 | **Geoff Turner (Sr., 2)**; 25 Frank Rice (Fr., 0) |
| LT | 78 | **Steve Dundee (Sr., 2)**; 61 Blane Saipaia (So., 1) |
| LG | 62 | Josh Dansereau (Sr., 1); 63 Tim Stuber (Fr., 0) |
| C | 64 | **Mike Newell (Jr., 2)**; 75 Nick Schaumburg (Fr., 0) |
| RG | 72 | **Anthony Cesario (Jr., 2)**; 55 Julio Alcala (So., 0) |
| RT | 71 | **Eric Bailey (Sr., 2)**; 73 Adam Wallace (Sr., 1) |
| TE | 80 | **Eli Workman (Sr., 3)**; 86 Derrek Uhl (Jr., 2) |
| QB | 13 | **Moses Moreno (Sr., 2)**; 12 Ryan Eslinger (Jr., 1) |
| FB | 20 | **Damon Washington (Jr., 2)**; 35 Jaime Blake (Jr., 2) |
| HB | 8 | Joey Porter (Jr., 2); 22 Darrell Ballard (Sr., 2) |
| WR | 5 | Paul Turner (Sr., 3); 85 Jon Ueland (So., 0) |
| K | | C.W. Hurst (Fr., 0); 14 Derek Franz (Jr., 0); |

### DEFENSE (9)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | 94 | **Steve Trammell (Jr., 2)**; 92 Paul Krisfalusi (So., 1) |
| DT | 92 | **Rob Cieslinski (So., 1)**; 54 Jamie Bennett (Fr., 0) |
| DT | 76 | Mike Mackenzie (Fr., 0); 90 Greg Pollard (So., 1) |
| DE | 44 | **Adrian Ross (Sr., 3)**; 96 Clark Haggans (So., 1) |
| LB | 3 | **Nate Kvamme (Jr., 2)**; 37 Jon Benallo (Jr., 2) |
| LB | 45 | **Willie Taylor (Jr., 2)**; 35 Eric Vaughn (Jr., 2) |
| LB | 46 | Rick Crowell (So., 1); 42 Ula Tuitele (So., 1) |
| CB | 2 | **Eason Ramson (Sr., 1)**; 23 Tetriss Nunn (So., 1) |
| CB | 4 | **Brady Schneider (Sr., 3)**; 10 Dennis Randle (Jr., 0) |
| SS | 28 | **Erik Olson (So., 1)**; 29 Otis Johnson (So., 0) |
| FS | 15 | **Myron Terry (Jr., 2)**; 36 Kevin McDougal (So., 1) |
| P | 7 | Preston Loos (Sr., 1) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

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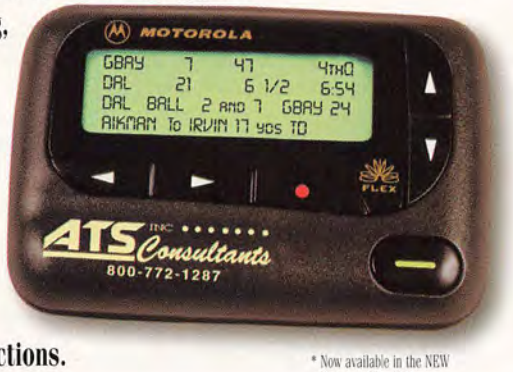


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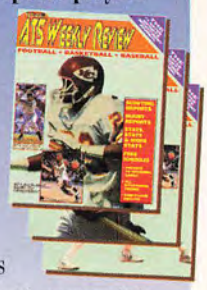


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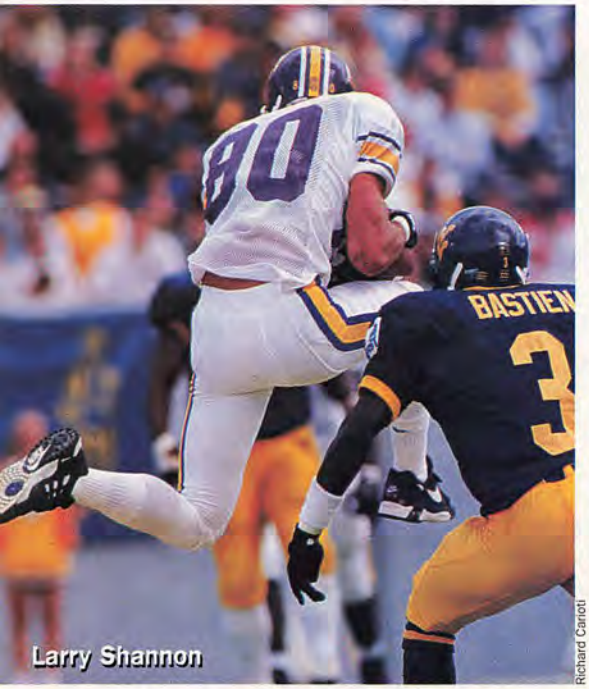
# East Carolina Pirates

Head Coach .....Steve Logan
1996 Record .....8–3
1997 Prediction .....1st C-USA
Home Field.....Dowdy-Ficklen Stadium (43,000)

East Carolina coach Steve Logan used Conference USA as a motivational tool during the 1995 season. He'll do so again this season but with a twist.

Recall the late summer of 1994.

Six schools (Cincinnati, Houston, Louisville, Memphis, Southern Mississippi and Tulane) tentatively created what would be later named Conference USA. Before Christmas, Marquette, Saint Louis and UAB had jumped on board. In early 1995, South Florida and UNC Charlotte were added to the fold, with DePaul rounding the group to 12 in the spring of that year. East Carolina, linked to the league in various media reports, was shunned.



Larry Shannon

Richard Carioti

Shrewdly, the coach used the snub to create an "Us versus the college football world" mentality with his players, as the Pirates stormed to a 9–3 mark.

ECU was asked to join the C-USA fraternity (in football only) last September.

So how will the coach continue to motivate his troops?

"Our motivation will come from the fact that we will be trying to win a conference championship," he responds.

Though he respects the other four in-state I-A programs (Duke, North Carolina, N.C. State and Wake Forest of the ACC), he won't let his take a backseat to theirs.

UNC finished '96 ranked higher and with a better February recruiting haul, at least according to talent evaluators, but ECU landed 14 in-state players to Carolina's nine.

"We have become a school of choice for the North Carolina kids," he says.

As for this season, Logan is concerned.

"We're going to struggle early. I am especially concerned about our offensive line and linebacking corps," he says. "I hope we can be up and running by our C-USA schedule."

When Marcus Crandell was felled by injury in early November, then-junior Dan Gonzalez stepped forward to start the final four games at quarterback. His performance set the stage for what should be a great senior season. Gonzalez finished 1996 with 1,322 passing yards, a 52.3-percent completion mark and, most importantly, the full confidence of his teammates and coaches.

Gonzalez, whose efficiency rating of 123.3 ranked him 43rd nationally, is a classic drop-back passer, but he does possess solid scrambling skills. He best displayed his potential for this season when he riddled a quality Memphis defense for 351 yards and two scoring strikes.

Junior Scott Harley burst onto the national scene with 1,805 yards, a 5.7-yards-per-carry average and 14 touchdowns. He is the country's leading returning rusher.

"We have to see if this was a one-year thing," Logan says of Harley, who had 263 yards as a freshman.

Senior split end Larry Shannon averaged 21.4 yards and scored nine touchdowns, all on only 39 catches. At 6–6 and with long arms, Shannon boasts a 41-inch vertical leap and runs a 4.4 40.

Senior flanker Jason Nichols has been a mainstay since his freshman season. Watch for senior Linwood DeBrew, junior Troy Smith and sophomore Lamont Chappell to emerge this fall as top-tier players. Junior Buck Collins likely will be the tight end.

Only one starter returns on the offensive line – junior center Danny Moore. Junior left guard Corey Russell looks to regain the starting position he lost after Game 1. The other guard may be redshirt freshman Sherwin Lacewell. Senior Stacey Whitehead should start at right tackle.

**11–14** Steve Logan's record as ECU coach vs. teams from the ACC, Big East and SEC. Of note: 18 of those 25 games have been on the road.

Junior nose guard Travis Darden will anchor the Pirate front wall and will be one of C-USA's best at pressuring quarterbacks. The tackles should be juniors Norris McCleary and Dwayne Ledford.

The only returnee of note at linebacker is junior Roderick Coleman. Senior Matt Semenza is back on the other side. Sophomores Brian Ray and Jeff Kerr are starting inside linebackers.

Junior Kelvin Suggs and sophomore Forrest Foster are returning starter in the secondary who combined for five interceptions. Foster will split time again with senior Tabari Wallace at right cornerback, with Suggs at free safety.

Kendrick Phillips and Deeone McKeithan, both juniors, are battling at strong safety. The left cornerback will be redshirt freshman Chris Satterfield.

Sophomore Brantley Rivers is an untested kicker, and sophomore Andrew Bayes averaged 40.3 yards as punter.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | **80 Larry Shannon (Sr., 3)**; 26 Troy Smith (Jr., 2) |
| LT | 78 Mondell Corbett (Jr., 2); 73 James Bell (Fr., 0) |
| LG | 70 Corey Russell (Jr., 2); 69 Dom Lausic (Fr., 0) |
| C | **54 Danny Moore (Jr., 1)**; 60 Rod Emery (Fr., 0) |
| RG | 77 Sherwin Lacewell (Fr., 0); 76 Anthony Nobles (Fr., 0) |
| RT | 75 Stacey Whitehead (Sr., 2); 72 Mike Garth (Jr., 0) |
| TE | 81 Buck Collins (Jr., 2); 89 Rashan Burns (Fr., 0) |
| QB | 9 Dan Gonzalez (Sr., 3); 7 Bobby Weaver (Fr., 0) |
| FB | **44 Scott Harley (Jr., 2)**; 19 Raymond Mabry (Jr., 2) |
| HB | 20 Linwood DeBrew (Sr., 3); 87 Lamont Chappell (So., 1) |
| FL | **1 Jason Nichols (Sr., 3)**; 4 Marcellus Harris (Fr., 0) |
| K | 25 Brantley Rivers (So., 1) |

### DEFENSE (4)

| | |
|---|---|
| DT | 79 Norris McCleary (Jr., 1); 48 Tomha McMillan (Jr., 2) |
| NG | **95 Travis Darden (Jr., 2)**; 52 Mbayo Ahmadu (Fr., 0) |
| DT | 99 Dwayne Ledford (Jr., 2); 93 Brian Johnson (Jr., 2) |
| LB | **57 Roderick Coleman (Jr., 2)**; 58 Freddie Claybrooks (So., 1) |
| LB | 84 Jeff Kerr (So., 0); 33 Clenton Cochran (Fr., 0) |
| LB | 42 Brian Ray (So., 1); 39 Raymond Massey (Fr., 0) |
| LB | 49 Matt Semenza (Sr., 3); 96 Marc Yellock (Fr., 0) |
| CB | 31 Chris Satterfield (Fr., 0); 21 Kevin Monroe (Fr., 0) |
| CB | **37 Forrest Foster (So., 1)**28 Tabari Wallace (Sr., 3) |
| SS | 40 Kendrick Phillips (Jr., 2); 3 Deeone McKeithan (Jr., 2) |
| FS | **8 Kelvin Suggs (Jr., 2)**; 11 Tavares Taylor (Jr., 2) |
| P | **17 Andrew Bayes (So., 1)** |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

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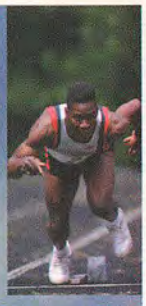

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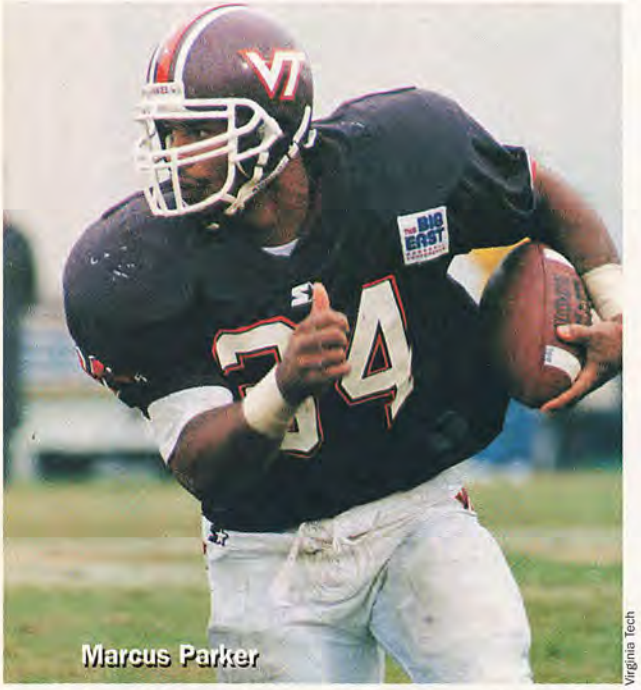
# Virginia Tech Hokies



**Head Coach** .....Frank Beamer
**1996 Record (Big East)**..10-2 (6-1)
**1997 Prediction** .....5th Big East
**Home Field**.....Lane Stadium (50,000)

Which was the better 10–2 season — 1995, which ended with a 28–10 trouncing of Texas in the Sugar Bowl, or 1996, when Virginia Tech won a school-record 10 games during the regular season but lost to Nebraska 41–21 in the Orange Bowl?

Both times, Tech tied for the Big East championship (in 1995 with Miami, last year with Miami and Syracuse) and was selected to represent the conference in an Alliance bowl. And both years the Hokies finished ninth in the national rankings, the highest ever.


Marcus Parker

Virginia Tech

"Being one of the six teams in the country to qualify for an Alliance Bowl two years in a row says a lot about the type of football program we have at Virginia Tech," says coach Frank Beamer, who was chosen conference Coach of the Year both seasons.

If he earns that honor again, he might as well go directly to the Hall of Fame. The Hokies lost heavily to graduation: seven starters on offense, including Co-Big East Player of the Year quarterback Jim Druckenmiller, and six on defense, among them two-time All-America end Cornell Brown.

The key loss is Druckenmiller, who passed for 2,504 yards and 17 touchdowns last season. The best bet to win the position is junior backup Al Clark.

There will certainly be a drop-off in size — Druckenmiller was 6–4, 224; Clark is 6–1, 202 — but not necessarily in strength. During the off-season, Clark broke Druckenmiller's squat record in the Super Iron Hokie weight-room competition.

"Al has what it takes to be an excellent college quarterback," says offensive coordinator Rickey Bustle. "Everything depends on how well he develops in the decision-making department."

Clark has thrown only 21 passes at Tech, completing 11 for 96 yards. He could be challenged by redshirt freshmen Nick Sorensen and Dave Meyer, or junior Mike Kocicka, a transfer from UNLV with a strong arm.

Senior tailback Ken Oxendine is a big back (6–1, 223) with big-play capability. Despite missing two games with a shoulder injury, he gained 890 yards during the regular season, led the Big East in scoring with 78 points and tied a school record with 13 rushing touchdowns. He was Tech's MVP in the Orange Bowl with 150 yards.

Sophomore Shyrone Stith started when Oxendine was injured and had a 474-yard season. Junior Lamont Pegues, a transfer from Clemson, is a dangerous runner.

Senior Marcus Parker, who has split time between tailback and fullback, will be used exclusively at fullback.

Senior flanker Shawn Scales returns after catching 30 passes for 510 yards and four touchdowns. Split end Cornelius White graduated, but senior backup Michael Stuewe is a breakaway threat with 25 receptions for 385 yards and five touchdowns.

The chief holdover at tight end is senior Sean Sullivan, who has the size (6–4, 243) but not the experience.

With the graduation of All-Big East center Billy Conaty, senior Todd Washington, a starter at guard and 308-pounder, has been moved to center.

The rest of the line also has good size, although the only other returning starter is senior guard Gennaro DiNapoli.

Replacing Brown at defensive end will be difficult, but sophomore John Engelberger and senior Danny Wheel are capable.

At tackle, Tech lost Waverly Jackson, but the coaches are high on returning starter Kerwin Hairston, a steady senior, as well as sophomore Carl Bradley.

The only holdover at linebacker is senior Steve Tate, who started six games in the middle. The new faces on the outside are likely to be senior Korey Irby and sophomore Jamel Smith, a 1996 backup.

Two starters return in the secondary — cornerback Loren Johnson and roverback Pierson Prioleau, both juniors. The other corner should be sophomore Anthony Midget, who started three games and had a key interception against East Carolina.

**4** The number of wins Frank Beamer needs to become Virginia Tech's winningest coach. With 61, Beamer is tied with Jerry Claiborne, the coach he played under at Tech, three behind Bill Dooley.

Keion Carpenter's 100-yard interception return sealed Tech's win over Miami. Carpenter, a junior, appears set to move into the starting role at free safety. He blocked three punts.

Sophomore Shayne Graham made the all-conference team by connecting on 10 of 16 field-goal attempts. Sophomore Jimmy Kibble, who was recruited as a placekicker, now handles kickoffs and punts.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

**SE** 31 Michael Stuewe (Sr., 2); 15 Marcus Gildersleeve (So., 1)
**LT** 74 Derek Smith (Jr., 1); 79 Josh Redding (Fr., 0)
**LG** 57 Dwight Vick (Jr., 1); 62 Tim Schnecker (So., 0)
**C** **75 Todd Washington (Sr., 2)**; 52 Keith Short (So., 0)
**RG** **64 Gennaro DiNapoli (Sr., 3)**; 66 Todd Wheatley (Jr., 0)
**RT** 67 Brad Baylor (Sr., 1); 76 William Flowers (Sr., 1)
**TE** 88 Sean Sullivan (Sr., 0); 80 Greg Myers (Fr., 0)
**QB** 5 Al Clark (Jr., 2); 13 Dave Meyer (Fr., 0)
**FB** 34 Marcus Parker (Sr., 3); 44 Shelly Ellison (So., 1)
**TB** **28 Ken Oxendine (Sr., 3)**; 7 Lamont Pegues (Jr., 0)
**FL** **22 Shawn Scales (Sr., 3)**; 83 Angelo Harrison (Jr., 2)
**K** **17 Shayne Graham (So., 1)**

### DEFENSE (5)

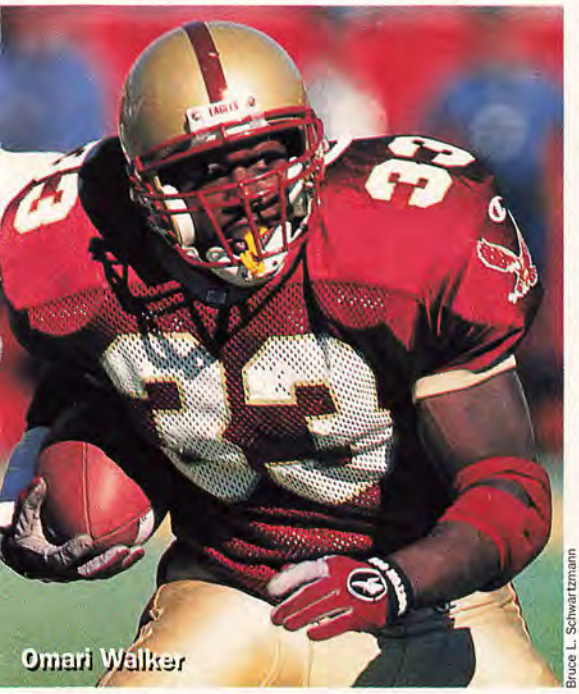
**DE** **87 John Engelberger (So., 1)**; 56 Corey Moore (So., 0)
**DT** 77 Carl Bradley (So., 1); 92 Nat Williams (So., 1)
**DT** **93 Kerwin Hairston (Sr., 1)**; 59 Anthony Lambo (Fr., 0)
**DE** 90 Danny Wheel (Sr., 2); 99 Chris Cyrus (So., 1)
**LB** 26 Korey Irby (Sr., 3); 21 Sean Ruffing (Fr, 0)
**LB** **49 Steve Tate (Sr., 2)**; 43 Michael Hawkes (So., 1)
**LB** 46 Jamel Smith (So., 1); 37 Jamie Forrest (Fr., 0)
**CB** **12 Loren Johnson (Jr., 2)**; 24 Tony Joe (Sr., 1)
**CB** 9 Anthony Midget (So, 1); 3 Ike Charlton (Fr., 0)
**SS** **20 Pierson Prioleau (Jr., 2)**; 8 Phillip Summers (Fr., 0)
**FS** 1 Keion Carpenter (Jr., 2); 6 Lorenzo Ferguson (Fr., 0)
**P** **95 Jimmy Kibble (So., 1)**

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

# Boston College Eagles

**Head Coach** .....Tom O'Brien
**1996 Record (Big East)**..5–7 (2–5)
**1997 Prediction** .....5th Big East
**Home Field**.....Alumni Stadium (44,500)

Boston College traditionally has hired offensive geniuses to direct its football fortunes. Dan Henning, who resigned with two years left on his contract after two straight losing seasons, was labeled a "quarterback guru." Henning's team was rocked last year by a betting scandal, but athletic director Chet Gladchuk says Henning's "resignation" had "nothing to do" with that sordid episode.


Omari Walker

Bruce L. Schwartzmann

"It has to do with football," Gladchuk says. "Look at the statistics. Take a look at the record. Take a look at the program."

Henning's record the last two seasons was 9–15.

BC has scored more than 300 points in a season only five times in 22 years. Tom O'Brien comes from Virginia, where he was the offensive coordinator of a team that scored more than 300 points in each of the last eight years, an ACC record. O'Brien's entire coaching career has been spent under George Welsh, first at Navy, then at Virginia.

O'Brien has junked Henning's one-back offense for a multiple attack and changed the eight-man front defense to a 4–3.

"This is the fifth defensive coordinator in five years so we've got some work to do with these kids on defense," O'Brien says.

First the good news: Two of the first three opponents are Big East doormats Temple and Rutgers. Now the bad: A three-game October stretch consists of Virginia Tech, Miami and Notre Dame.

Jermaine Monk, who started both inside and outside linebacker a year ago, suffered a severe concussion during spring practice; it took 4½ hours of surgery to remove a blood clot on his brain.

Senior quarterback Matt Hasselbeck started 10 games between starts in the opener and the finale by junior Scott Mutryn. Hasselbeck passed for 1,990 yards and nine touchdowns, with nine interceptions; Mutryn threw for 513 yards and two TDs, and was intercepted four times.

Mutryn had just about wrapped up the starting job in the spring of 1996 when he struck his hand on a teammate's helmet during a drill and broke a bone in his throwing thumb.

Senior Omari Walker was the leading rusher in the Big East with 1,199 yards and tied for the conference lead with 13 touchdowns. He was BC's short-yardage specialist the previous two years.

He'll get plenty of help from junior Mike Cloud, who rushed for 359 yards and a 5.3-yard average after leading the Eagles in 1995 with 626 yards and a 6.1 per-carry average that was second in the Big East.

Junior Dennis Harding caught 42 passes for 444 yards and sophomore Anthony DiCosmo hauled in 36. They scored a grand total of four touchdowns between them. Running back Walker was the third-leading pass-catcher with 32.

The Eagles used two tight ends for the most part under Henning — one on the line, the other as an H-back — and senior Todd Pollack established himself as one of the premier tight ends in the conference. He caught 22 passes despite missing several games because of injuries.

Junior offensive guard Doug Brzezinski, a two-year starter, will be the cornerstone, assisted by sophomores Damien Woody at center and Darnell Alford at tackle. Junior tackles Noah LaRose and Andy Mitcham filled in as starters when needed and are the top candidates for permanent jobs this fall.

The defensive tackle trio of sophomore Mike Willetts and juniors Greg Fisher and Dan Collins appears ready to step up. The defensive end position should be a deep one with the return of senior Erik Storz, sophomore Chris Hovan and junior Greg Bartlett. Hovan was named to *The Sporting News* freshman All-America team.

**13** The number of Boston College football players suspended last November for allegedly betting on games.

Senior linebackers Markell Blount and Brian Maye should be candidates for all-conference honors. Junior Bobby Edmonds and sophomore Ryan Reckley are the leading candidates to join Blount and Maye in the new 4–3 alignment. Sophomore Donovan Yarbrough, who made 26 tackles as a true freshman, returns after sitting out 1996.

Senior cornerback Shalom Tolefree, the most experienced defender in the secondary, was a major contributor last year with 53 tackles, four forced fumbles and an interception. Sophomore safety Pedro Cirino won a starting role as a true freshman. Sophomore Tim Davis was a starting cornerback and true freshman George White was a top reserve.

Sophomore placekicker John "Auto" Matich connected on 16-of-23 field goals (BC's single-season record is 17) and all 19 PATs. Junior Jason Malecki averaged 43.1 yards per punt.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| SE | 18 | **Dennis Harding (Jr., 2)**; 9 Derrick Crittenden (So., 1) |
| LT | 76 | **Darnell Alford (So., 1)**; 72 Butch Palaza (So.,0) |
| LG | 64 | Noah LaRose (Jr., 1); 65 Michael Cook (Fr., 0) |
| C | 63 | **Damien Woody (So., 1)**; 50 Paul LaQuerre (Fr., 0) |
| RG | 60 | Andrew Mitcham (Jr., 1); 61 Jon Miles (Jr., 1) |
| RT | 74 | **Doug Brzezinski (Jr., 2)**; 77 Tim Zeglin (Jr., 0) |
| TE | 89 | **Todd Pollack (Sr., 3)**; 83 Scott Dragos (Sr., 3) |
| QB | 7 | **Matt Hasselbeck (Sr., 3)**; 12 Scott Mutryn (Jr., 2) |
| RB | 21 | Mike Cloud (Jr., 2); 42 Joe Mickens (So., 0) |
| TB | 33 | **Omari Walker (Sr., 3)**; 20 Quinton Lee (So., 1) |
| WR | 11 | **Anthony DiCosmo (So., 1)**; 80 Mike Guazzo (So., 1) |
| K | 23 | **John Matich (So., 1)** |

### DEFENSE (7)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | 51 | **Eric Storz (Sr., 3)**; 36 Greg Bartlett Jr., 2) |
| DT | 98 | Michael Willets (So., 1); 85 Daniel Collins (Jr., 1) |
| DT | 94 | Greg Fisher (Jr., 2); 85 Daniel Collins (Jr., 1) |
| DE | 95 | **Chris Hovan (So., 1)**; 36 Greg Bartlett (Jr., 2) |
| LB | 90 | **Markell Blount (Sr., 3)**; 54 Ryan Reckley (So., 1) |
| LB | 46 | **Brian Maye (Sr., 3)**; 45 Donavon Yarbough (So., 1) |
| LB | 41 | Bobby Edmonds (Jr., 2); 56 Jermaine Monk (Jr., 2) |
| CB | 27 | **Tim Davis (So., 1)**; 5 Michael Bullock (So., 1) |
| CB | 26 | **Shalom Tolefree (Sr., 2)**; 8 Jason Smith (Fr., 0) |
| SS | 40 | George White (So., 1); 35 Cedric Washington (So., 1) |
| FS | 3 | **Pedro Cirino (So., 1)**; 4 Carlton Rowe (So., 1) |
| P | 43 | Jason Malecki (Jr., 2) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

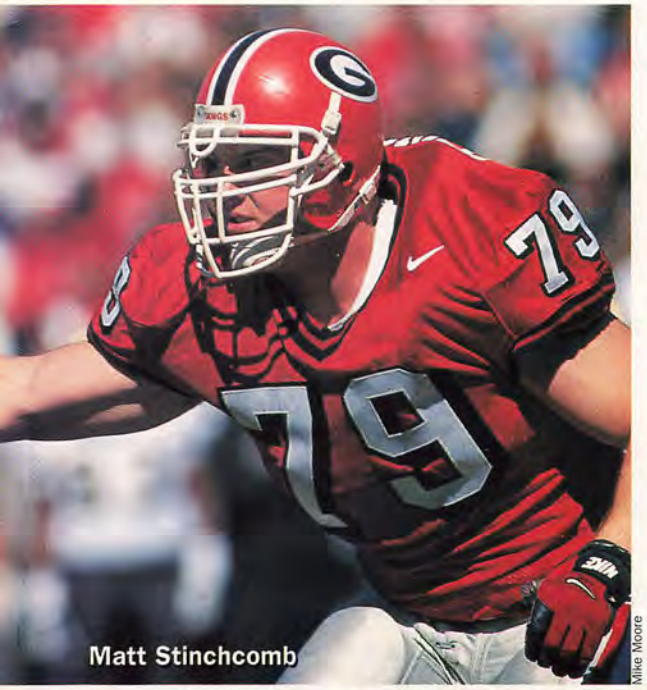
# Georgia Bulldogs



**Head Coach .....Jim Donnan**
**1996 Record (SEC) .....5–6 (3–5)**
**1997 Prediction .....3rd SEC East**
**Home Field.....Sanford Stadium (86,117)**

As Georgia was scratching out a 13–2 win over Vanderbilt at Sanford Stadium last October, legendary Bulldogs announcer Larry Munson surveyed the proceedings and said, "It looks like both teams are playing in seven inches of snow."

Indeed, such goings-on were hard to watch for Bulldog fans, many of whom couldn't help but wonder if things hadn't really been better with Ray Goff than under first-year coach Jim Donnan.


Matt Stinchcomb

Mike Moore

Donnan knew this wasn't going to be easy, but the inconsistencies (seven points against Florida and, two weeks later, 56 points in a four-overtime victory against Auburn) must be corrected or a repeat of the 5–6 season is a very real possibility.

And if Donnan thinks his maiden voyage as Georgia coach was difficult, he should be aware that coaches who have back-to-back losing seasons are about as popular with Georgia fans as the dogcatcher is to Uga, the Bulldogs' mascot, and his offspring.

Is Mike Bobo the quarterback who threw for 292 yards and directed a 97-yard touchdown drive in the last two minutes to beat bowl-bound Texas Tech, or is he the one who threw three interceptions in the disheartening loss to Kentucky?

Bobo, a senior, played sparingly as a backup to Eric Zeier in his first year and had his sophomore season cut short by an injury. He should be more at ease with Donnan's offense, which is built around the running game and play-action passes.

After throwing 14 interceptions in the Bulldogs' first seven games, Bobo was picked off only twice in his last 121 attempts.

Mike Usry, a redshirt freshman, is the likely backup, but any significant injury to Bobo could return Hines Ward to the quarterback spot.

Few teams have a 1–2 punch at tailback like Robert Edwards and Patrick Pass.

Edwards, a senior, may not be quite the back he was before suffering the season-ending broken foot against Tennessee two games into the '95 season, but he remains dependable with breakaway speed.

Pass, a homegrown talent who ran for 354 yards as a true freshman, should get more carries.

Senior Selma Calloway started all 11 games at fullback and puts his heart into blockings.

While Ward's versatility is an asset (he has started at quarterback, tailback and wide receiver in his Georgia career), he needs to have a big senior season catching the ball.

Senior Corey Allen ranked third on the team in receptions with 29. Tony Small, a junior, is the only other wide receiver with any game experience.

Junior Larry Brown, who has started all 23 games since arriving at Georgia, returns at tight end and should figure more prominently as a receiver.

Improved run blocking is vital. But is it likely, especially without All-SEC tackle Adam Meadows?

Junior Matt Stinchcomb is a fixture at left tackle, where his 6–7, 280-pound frame protects Bobo's blind side on passing situations. Right guard Antonio Fleming and center Brad Stafford are solid seniors. Look for sophomore Steve Herndon or senior Kenley Ingram to start at left guard, with redshirt freshman Jonas Jennings a likely starter at right tackle.

Senior nose guard Travis Stroud and junior end Paul Snellings are homegrown talents who must now play up to expectations. Senior Derrick Byrd will start opposite Snellings at end.

Senior linebacker Greg Bright has started 33 of 34 games in his college career and he led the Dawgs in tackles last year with 143.

Fellow senior Brandon Tolbert has started the last 18 games beside Bright. Each had 18 tackles against Texas Tech. Sophomore Orantes Grant, who played in all 11 games, will step into the weak-side linebacker spot.

**89.8** That's how many fewer rushing yards per game Robert Edwards averaged in 1996 (72.7) than in an injury-shortened '95 season (162.5).

Georgia ranked eighth in the SEC in pass defense. Brothers Ronald Bailey, a senior, and Champ Bailey, a sophomore, are likely starters at cornerback. Junior Glenn Ford and sophomores Quentin Davis and Jeff Harris are also in the cornerback mix, although one or two of them could be moved to the short-handed safety spots.

All-SEC free safety Corey Johnson is gone, with junior Kirby Smart and sophomore Larry Mann getting first shots at the position. Senior Trey Sipe, who started five games last season, figures to play strong safety.

Senior Dax Langley is a three-year starting punter but needs to hang the ball higher to prevent runbacks (opponents averaged 11.2 yards). Hap Hines made seven-of-nine field goals, including a 54-yarder.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

**WR** 4 Tony Small (Jr., 1); 36 Michael Greer (Fr., 0)
**LT** **79 Matt Stinchcomb (Jr., 2)**; Jeremy Lewis (Fr., 0)
**LG** 73 Steve Herndon (So., 1); 64 Kenley Ingram (Sr., 1)
**C** **65 Brad Stafford (Sr., 1)**; 59 Miles Luckie (So., )
**RG** **69 Antonio Fleming (Sr., 3)**; 63 Reggie Stargill (Fr., 0)
**RT** 75 Jonas Jennings (Fr., 0); 84 Chris Terry (Jr., 2)
**TE** **87 Larry Brown (Jr., 2)**; 85 Michael Taylor (Sr., 3)
**QB** **14 Mike Bobo (Sr., 3)**; 15 Mike Usry (Fr., 0)
**RB** **47 Robert Edwards (Sr., 3)**; 6 Patrick Pass (So., 1)
**RB** **32 Selma Calloway (Sr., 3)**; 35 Dave Williams (Jr., 1)
**WR** **19 Hines Ward (Sr., 3)**; 80 Corey Allen (Sr., 3)
**K** **41 Hap Hines (So., 1)**; 2 Dax Langley (Sr., 3)

### DEFENSE (6)

**DE** **96 Paul Snellings (Jr., 2)**; 52 Rich Robich (Jr.,0)
**DT** 51 Brandon Miller (So., 1); 99 Brad Register (Fr., 0)
**NG** 66 Travis Stroud (Sr., 3); 95 Marcus Hunter (Jr., 2)
**DE** **91 Derrick Byrd (Sr., 2)**; 97 Marcus Stroud (Fr., 0)
**LB** **28 Brandon Tolbert (Sr., 3)**; 50 Dustin Luckie (So., 0)
**LB** **45 Greg Bright (Sr., 3)**; 53 Mike Luckie (So., 1)
**LB** 58 Orantes Grant (So., 1); 37 Adrian Goodman (Jr., 2)
**CB** **42 Champ Bailey (So., 1)**; 7 Glenn Ford (Jr., 2)
**CB** **5 Ronald Bailey (Sr., 2)**; 10 Quentin Davis (So., 1)
**SS** 18 Trey Sipe (Sr., 3); 46 Reggie Smith (Sr., 3)
**FS** 16 Kirby Smart (Jr., 2); 1 Larry Mann (So., 1)
**P** **2 Dax Langley (Sr., 3)**

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# Northwestern Wildcats

**Head Coach** .....Gary Barnett
**1996 Record (Big 10)** ....9–3 (7–1)
**1997 Prediction** .....6th Big 10
**Home Field**.....Dyche Stadium (49,256)

Gary Barnett looks at this season as yet another chapter for what has become the storybook team of the late '90s.

He has lost three assistants and 13 starters, including many of the big-name players who helped turn Northwestern from perennial cellar-dweller to two-time Big 10 champion and national contender.

D'Wayne Bates

Jonathan Daniel/Allsport

"Without question, it's the best group of players we've had leave the program at one time," Barnett says matter-of-factly.

Among the departed, all of whom were key members of the 1995 Rose Bowl team, are two-time Big 10 Defensive Player of the Year Pat Fitzgerald, quarterback Steve Schnur and running back Darnell Autry.

"We've got some young kids," Barnett says. "We're going to look a little different, but you just turn the page and go on."

Last season, the Wildcats relied on offense, and that started with Schnur's arm and leadership. Replacing him will be difficult, but the competition during spring drills was fierce between fifth-year seniors Tim Hughes and Chris Hamdorf. Hughes likely will be the starter because he has had more experience in the system.

Darnell Autry is gone, which means it is senior Adrian Autry's (no relation) time to shine. Adrian Autry had 112 carries — less than half of Darnell Autry's attempts — for 421 yards and four touchdown last season. Adrian also started one game while Darnell was out with an injury.

Northwestern does not have tremendous depth at fullback, and Barnett says that may lead him to use more of a two tight-end look. Junior Levelle Brown should be the starting fullback.

Receiving will be the Wildcats' biggest strength, but D'Wayne Bates, who decided to return for his senior season, is probably wondering if he'll have a quarterback with the accuracy of Schnur throwing to him this year.

Bates was All-Big 10 in 1996 after leading the conference with an average 99.91 receiving yards and 6.2 receptions per game.

Senior Toussaint Waterman returns as the other wideout, and fellow senior Brian Musso is still available.

Senior tight end Joel Stuart faces a challenger in Jay Tant, a sophomore.

An offense doesn't gain 4,590 total yards, as Northwestern did in '96, without help up front. Three starters are gone, and Barnett is using some creativity to fill the holes.

Barnett doesn't have a worry at center, however, since senior Nathan Strikwerda returns and he started all 11 games. Senior Paul Janus started all but the opener at left tackle, but he will be moved to right tackle. Senior Bryan LaBelle, originally a guard, moves to left tackle.

Junior Brian Hemmerle will now start at left guard. Senior Chris Leeder is considered the most athletic of the linemen despite his 6–4, 301-pound girth, and he should hold down right guard.

Northwestern returns experience at defensive end in seniors Casey Dailey and Keith Lozowski, and the interior should be solid with the return of several veteran performers.

Fifth-year senior Kejaun DuBose inherits the starting job at left tackle, with senior Bobby Russ, a part-time starter a year ago, taking over full-time at right tackle.

Senior Barry Gardner is the only returning starter at linebacker, and he is expected to move from the outside to Fitzgerald's vacated spot in the middle. Don't be surprised to a see highly rated recruit, Tom O'Brien of Chicago, make a major contribution.

The secondary returns Citrus Bowl starters. Senior Josh Barnes and junior Gerald Conoway work the corners. Seniors Mike Nelson and Eric Collier are the safeties.

**25** The number of years since Dyche Stadium last featured natural grass. The stadium, which is undergoing renovations, actually had artificial turf installed three years ago but has now made the switch.

Graduated All-Big Ten punter Paul Burton left the job to redshirt freshman Eron Kosmowski, who at 6–6, 250 pounds has a powerful leg. If Kosmowski does not progress as quickly as expected, kicker Brian Gowins may be used.

"If I don't sleep much this season, it's because of that position," Barnett says regarding his punter.

Gowins, however, will handle field goals and extra points. A senior, he tied for 10th nationally with an average 1.45 field goals per game.

Musso was the top punt returner with an 11.2-yard average. Autry will probably return kickoffs.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| WR | **5** | **D'Wayne Bates (Sr., 2)**; 85 Phil Miller (So., 0) |
| LT | 79 | Bryan LaBelle (Sr., 2);71 Jack Harnedy (So., 0) |
| LG | 70 | Brian Hemmerle (Jr., 0); 53 Mark Perry (So., 0) |
| C | **63** | **Nathan Strikwerda (Sr., 2)**; 57 Ty Garner (So., 0) |
| RG | 69 | Chris Leeder (Sr., 1); 68 Neil Carroll (So., 0) |
| RT | **74** | **Paul Janus (Sr., 3)**; 73 Mark Tomkiel (Sr., 0) |
| TE | 87 | Joel Stuart (Sr., 1); 2 Mike Davis (Jr., 1) |
| QB | 8 | Tim Hughes (Sr., 1); 4 Chris Hamdorf (Sr., 1) |
| FB | 34 | Levelle Brown (Jr., 2); 35 Matt Fordenwalt (Jr., 0) |
| RB | 32 | Adrian Autry (Sr., 2); 16 Tyrone Gooch (Jr., 0) |
| WR | **18** | **Toussaint Waterman (Sr., 3)**; 22 Brian Musso (Sr., 3) |
| K | **13** | **Brian Gowins (Sr., 2)**; 10 Tim Long (So., 0) |

### DEFENSE (6)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | **44** | **Keith Lozowski (Sr., 3)**; 95 Dwayne Missouri (So., 0) |
| DT | 88 | Kejaun DuBose (Sr., 2); 65 Jeff Dyra (Jr., 0) |
| DT | 98 | Bobby Russ (Sr., 2); 91 Marc Lapadula (Jr., 0) |
| DE | **36** | **Casey Dailey (Sr., 3)**; Thor Schmidt (Sr., 1) |
| LB | **55** | **Barry Gardner (Sr., 2)**; 9 Kevin Buck (Jr., 2) |
| LB | 40 | Josh Kolar (Jr., 1); 47 Conrad Emmerich (So., 0) |
| LB | 10 | Anwawn Jones (So., 1); 59 Jason Ross (Sr., 0) |
| CB | 11 | Gerald Conoway (Jr., 1); 21 Fred Wilkerson (Sr., 2) |
| CB | **17** | **Josh Barnes (Sr., 2)**; 6 Harold Blackmon (So., 0) |
| SS | **33** | **Eric Collier (Sr., 3)**; 31 Kyle Sanders (Jr., 1) |
| FS | **26** | **Mike Nelson (Sr., 2)**; 24 Rashad Morton (So, 0) |
| P | 88 | Eron Kosmowski (So., 0) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

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# Arizona State Sun Devils

Head Coach .....Bruce Snyder
1996 Record (Pac-10)....11–1 (8–0)
1997 Prediction .....5th Pac-10
Home Field.....Sun Devil Stadium (73,379)

Bruce Snyder is hoping that five isn't his only lucky number. He spent five years at California, building a team that went 10–2 in his last season there. His fifth in Tempe was special, too.

Oh, how special.

The Sun Devils were 11–1 and came within a play of beating Ohio State in the Rose Bowl, which could have yielded a national championship, or, at least, would have had the voters confused on Jan. 2.

Pat Tillman

Peter Brouillet

As a reward, Snyder got a new five-year contract.

"Each year is so difficult," he says. "This year, people will predict that we won't be as good, and maybe with cause, because we lost a quarterback, an All-America tackle and a good wide receiver.

"But we have some people who are, well, angry isn't the word, but determined because people have written us off because of those losses. They're angry because we lost the Rose Bowl. They want to go back."

It's junior Steve Campbell's turn, and if the position looks different, it's because Campbell is a lot different from the departed Jake Plummer.

Plummer was a creator, dropping back, rolling out, running, even occasionally catching a pass. Campbell drops back, looks out over the field (not all that difficult when you are 6-8) and throws the ball.

It's something Arizona State is going to have to get used to, because Campbell does not have the ability to create things that Plummer had. But then, who does?

His role under Plummer was mostly that of mop-up, but Campbell gave a glimpse of the Sun Devils' future when he engineered two touchdown drives in the fourth quarter of the 56–14 victory over Arizona.

Sophomore Gus Farwell backs him up, and Ryan Kealy, a redshirt freshman, is going to get a hard look if Campbell falters.

When Terry Battle opted to skip his final season of college for the NFL, it left the Sun Devils a bit short at running back, but Michael Martin and J.R. Redmond are ready.

Martin, a senior, was the starter until he fractured a vertebra in the UCLA game, and that cost him the last half of the season. But his impact lingered when Battle wrote Martin's number on his wristband the next week and scored four touchdowns against Southern California.

Redmond, a sophomore, has shown strength, speed and versatility. On one run he dragged six California defenders seven yards; he caught nine passes and threw a touchdown pass to Plummer that led to a 42–34 victory over UCLA.

The fullback is junior Jeff Paulk, a 245-pound blocking demon.

Ricky Boyer, a dynamic little (5–8) senior is back at receiver. So are juniors Lenzie Jackson, Kenny Mitchell and Creig Spann, might have been the best of the lot a year ago, but he tore a knee ligament in the second game.

Sophomore Kendrick Bates and senior Zack Romero are at tight end. Bates is the better pass-catcher, Romero the blocker.

Grey Ruegamer, among the most versatile linemen in the Pac-10, has moved from right tackle to left, replacing departed All-American Juan Roque.

Ruegamer, a junior, will line up alongside senior guard Kyle Murphy, who was held out of spring practice with knee problems. Junior Randy Leaphart moves in at center.

On the right side, senior Glen Gable is the guard and sophomore Troy Davis the tackle, both moving up from second string.

Derrick Rodgers is gone after one season to the NFL, and he takes with him the majority of the Arizona State pass rush.

That leaves senior Vince Amey, junior Albrey Battle and senior Jeremy Staat up front.

**2,754 / 2,683** That's the run-pass ratio of Arizona State's remarkably well-balanced offensive juggernaut en route to an 11–0 regular season in 1996.

The linebackers are pretty special, led by senior Pat Tillman, a safety-sized, 200-pound outside man who was second on the team in tackles.

He is joined by Larry Johnson on the other side and Paul Reynolds in the middle.

An experienced group is back in the secondary, though outspoken free safety Mitchell Freedman, was dismissed from the team after the Rose Bowl.

Returning at strong safety is senior Damien Richardson. The other safety is Lamon Morgan, who has moved from cornerback. The cornerbacks are senior Jason Simmons and sophomore Courtney Jackson.

Senior Robert Nycz returns to handle field goals, having kicked the game-winning 38-yarder against Washington that started Arizona State toward its undefeated regular season.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| WR | 83 | **Lenzie Jackson (Jr., 2)**; 2 Creig Spann (Sr., 1) |
| LT | 51 | **Grey Ruegamer (Jr., 2)**; 71 Marvel Smith (Fr, 0) |
| LG | 56 | **Kyle Murphy (Sr, 3)**; 76 Mike Barnes (Jr., 2) |
| C | | 64 Randy Leaphart (Jr., 2); 60 Brian Williams (Jr., 0) |
| RG | | 70 Glen Gable (Sr., 3); 75 Victor Leyva (Fr, 0) |
| RT | | 79 Troy Davis (Jr., 1); 73 Thomas Schmidt (So., 0) |
| TE | | 85 Kendrick Bates (So., 1); 86 Zack Romero (Sr., 3) |
| QB | | 7 Steve Campbell (Jr., 2); 8 Ryan Kealy (Fr., 0) |
| FB | 44 | **Jeff Paulk (Jr., 2)**; 35 Darrin Ransom (Fr., 0) |
| TB | 29 | **Michael Martin (Sr., 2)**; 21 J.R. Redmond (So., 1) |
| WR | | 81 Kenny Mitchell (Jr., 2); 24 Ricky Boyer (Jr., 2) |
| K | 41 | **Robert Nycz (Sr., 2)** |

### DEFENSE (5)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | | 92 Jeremy Staat (Sr., 1); 46 Hamilton Mee (Sr, 1) |
| DT | 98 | **Vince Amey (Sr., 3)**; 95 Ryan Reilly (So., 0) |
| DT | 97 | **Albrey Battle (Jr., 2)**; 91 Quincy Yancy (Fr., 0) |
| DE | | 58 Derrick Ford (Jr., 1); 93 Malchi Crawford (Sr., 2) |
| LB | 42 | **Pat Tillman (Sr., 3)**; 40 Adam Archuleta (Fr., 0) |
| LB | | 37 Paul Reynolds (Sr., 1); 55 Joe Cesta (Jr., 0) |
| LB | | 25 Larry Johnson (Jr., 2); 30 Stephen Trejo (Fr., 0) |
| CB | 10 | **Jason Simmons (Sr., 3)**; 6 Phillip Brown (So., 0) |
| CB | | 23 Courtney Jackson (So., 1); 26 Kareem Clark (So., 1) |
| SS | 39 | **Damien Richardson (Sr., 3)**; 9 Thomas Simmons (Sr., 3) |
| FS | | 12 Lamont Morgan (Jr., 2); 28 B.J. Alford (Sr., 1) |
| P | | Stephen Baker (Fr., 0); 18 Marcus Williams (Sr., 3) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* **BOLD** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

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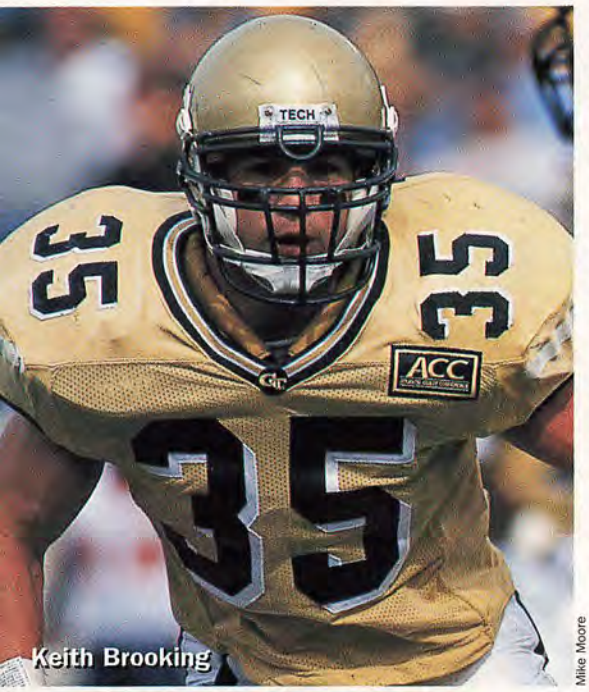
# Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets

Head Coach .....George O'Leary
1996 Record (ACC).....5–6 (4–4)
1997 Prediction .....5th ACC
Home Field.....Bobby Dodd Stadium (46,000)

George O'Leary, beginning his third season as Georgia Tech's football coach, has reasons for optimism.

True, he must rebuild his offensive line and secondary, but he's had three strong recruiting classes. His quarterback, Joe Hamilton, has gone through the obligatory freshman initiation, and two offensive keys, junior fullback Charles Wiley and senior flanker Derrick Steagall, are returning healthy after knee problems.



Keith Brooking

Mike Moore

Hamilton, who is often compared to former Yellow Jacket great Shawn Jones, is going to have the guidance that Jones had: Ralph Friedgen as chief offensive plotter and playcaller. Friedgen returns to Tech from the NFL, where he was offensive coordinator for San Diego's Super Bowl team. He served in the same capacity for Tech during the national championship campaign of 1990.

Hamilton has an accurate arm, throws a soft, catchable ball and is a quick, elusive scrambler. He needs only to cut down on interceptions and make better decisions — his touchdown-to-interception ratio in 1996 was an unacceptable 7/13 — which is where Friedgen comes in.

Hamilton is a dangerous pass-run threat, while junior backup Brandon Shaw is more of a dropback passer. Shaw started two games and tossed a school-record 96-yard touchdown pass against Central Florida.

The Jackets lost C.J. Williams early to the NFL but otherwise return a full cast of ball carriers: Wiley and sophomores Virgil Johnson and Phillip Rogers at fullback, and juniors Charlie Rogers and Curtis Hollomon at tailback.

Wiley, a blocking machine with sprinter's speed, can play either setback position. For his size (6–1, 226), Wiley is amazingly quick off the blocks, combining power with explosiveness, but he must bounce back from a knee injury that sidelined him almost all of last season. Slippery Charlie Rogers, Tech's top returning rusher with a 4.8 average, gives defenders a different look: elusiveness. Both are dependable as pass targets.

If Steagall can escape the injury jinx that has dogged his career, Tech will have one of the top receiving corps in college football. Steagall is a 4.3 sprinter who missed all last year following knee surgery.

At split end, Tech returns the ACC's No.1 pass catcher of '96, senior Harvey Middleton. A cousin of Hamilton, Middleton pulled in a school-record 64 passes.

Junior Mike Sheridan (28 catches, two TDs) slips into the creases on tough possession calls.

Massive (6–7, 253) junior tight end Chris Myers hasn't caught many passes, but he's rattled dental work with his blocking.

Having lost three of five starters, including All-ACC tackle Curtis McGee, new offensive line coach Doug Marrone faces a major rebuilding job. He has a sturdy foundation in senior guard Ken Celaj. Junior Craig Page returns at centerand sophomore Tim Castro is back at right tackle.

Senior defensive tackle Derrick Shepard has All-ACC potential. Quick for his 6–3, 296-pound frame, he has a knack for showing up where the action is. Among Shepard's 57 hits were 10 for loss and two fumble recoveries.

Nose guard Patrick Bradford had nine tackles for loss and end Ralph Hughes had 3½ sacks. Junior DeShaan Simmons is the likely heir apparent to the graduated Jermaine Miles at end.

If linebackers come any better than seniors Ron Rogers and Keith Brooking, they must be in the NFL. In the last two years, Brooking has notched more tackles (293) than any other ACC defender. Rogers had 112 stops in just 10 games in '96.

> **30** If Harvey Middleton catches a pass in the '97 opener against Notre Dame, he will have extended his consecutive-game reception streak to 30, adding to the school record.

Brooking needs only 102 tackles to become Georgia Tech's all-time leader.

Sophomore Chris Edwards is the top candidate for the outside spot left vacant by the graduation of Jimmy Clements.

Junior cornerbacks Jason Bostic and Kofi Smith expect strong challenges from redshirt freshman Derrick Dudley and sophomore Reggie Wilcox. Junior free safety Brian Wilkins, who led the team with four interceptions, is being challenged by sophomores Travares Tillman and Jon Muyres. Junior strong safety Jerry Caldwell finds sophomore Donte Booker and redshirt freshman Tony Tolbert in contention

Junior punter Rodney Williams has been up and down on distance and accuracy. He averaged 38.4 yards per boot.

Placekickers Brad Chambers, a junior, and David Frakes, a senior, have had similar problems with consistency.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | **81 Harvey Middleton (Sr., 3)**; 6 Condrad Daniels (Jr., 1) |
| LT | 77 Abe Fernandez (So., 0); 65 Chris Brown (Fr., 0) |
| LG | 75 Jason Burks (So., 0); 66 Kevin Knapp (So., 0) |
| C | **78 Craig Page (Jr., 1)**; 71 Noah King (So., 0) |
| RG | **64 Ken Celaj (Sr., 3)**; 67 Dan Mitchell (Fr., 0) |
| RT | 73 Tim Castro (So., 1); 63 Bill Madigan (So., 0) |
| TE | 91 Chris Myers (Jr., 2); 34 Matt Gubba (Jr., 2) |
| QB | **14 Joe Hamilton (So., 1)**; 10 Brandon Shaw (Jr., 2) |
| FB | **36 Charles Wiley (Jr., 2)**; 39 Virgil Johnson (So., 1) |
| TB | 3 Charlie Rogers (Jr., 2); 37 Phillip Rogers (So., 1) |
| FL | **9 Derrick Steagall (Sr., 3)**; 17 Mike Sheridan (Jr., 2) |
| K | **13 Brad Chambers (Jr., 1); 12 Dave Frakes (Sr., 3)** |

### DEFENSE (7)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | **46 Ralph Hughes (Sr., 3)**; 41 Jesse Tarplin (Jr., 2) |
| DT | **92 Derrick Shepard (Sr., 3)**; 56 Nate Simpson (Jr., 1) |
| NG | **79 Patrick Bradford (Sr., 3)**; 94 Dan Witherspoon (Sr.,3) |
| DE | 68 DeShaan Simmons (Jr., 2); 54 Roderrick Roberts (Jr., 1) |
| LB | 5 Chris Edwards (So., 1); 55 Delaunta Cameron (Jr., 2) |
| LB | **50 Ron Rogers (Sr., 3)**; 58 Justin Robertson (Jr., 2) |
| LB | **35 Keith Brooking (Sr., 3)**; 44 David Pleasant (So., 0) |
| CB | 43 Kofi Smith (Jr., 2); 30 Reggie Wilcox (So., 0) |
| CB | **4 Jason Bostic (Jr., 2)**; 24 Derrick Dudley (Fr., 0) |
| SS | 27 Jerry Caldwell (Jr., 2); 18 Dante Booker (So., 1) |
| FS | **16 Brian Wilkins (Jr., 1)**; 26 Travares Tillman (So., 1) |
| P | **2 Rodney Williams (Jr., 1)**; 13 Brad Chambers (Jr., 1) |

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

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# Texas Tech Red Raiders

**Head Coach** .....Spike Dykes
**1996 Record (Big 12)** ....7–5 (5–3)
**1997 Prediction** .....3rd Big 12 South
**Home Field**.....Jones Stadium (50,500)

After All-American Byron Hanspard rushed for 287 yards against Baylor, surpassing 1,000 on his way to 2,084 last season, Texas Tech coach Spike Dykes said: "I've been working with him after practice. I've been teaching him a lot of my old moves."

Unfortunately for the Red Raiders, Hanspard left Lubbock early by way of the NFL draft. Texas Tech's young and inexperienced running backs could use some of his old moves — Hanspard's that is.

Zebbie Lethridge

Layne Murdoch

The Red Raiders had good fortune away from home, winning their last three road games last season.

"We had a stigma of not being able to win against good teams on the road," Dykes said. "Thank goodness we've gotten over that."

Texas Tech has an opening-game assignment no team would look forward to in trying to keep that modest streak active. The Red Raiders open at Tennessee and play key conference games at Baylor, Nebraska and Texas.

Senior Zebbie Lethridge, a starter since his freshman season, is one of the best quarterbacks in Red Raider history.

Although Lethridge has completed only 47.3 percent for his career, he has been a productive passer. The senior threw for 1,686 yards and 11 touchdowns last season, with only six interceptions.

Lethridge set a Southwest Conference record of 211 consecutive passes without an interception as a sophomore and ranks third on Texas Tech's career lists for passing yards and touchdowns.

Dykes has predicted that when sophomore running back Clint Robertson's time comes, "he will really light up the scoreboard."

The Red Raiders are hoping Robertson's time is now. One of only two freshmen to travel regularly last season, he was used primarily as a kick returner, carrying only seven times for nine yards. Even so, Robertson has a wealth of experience compared to those competing with him for the starting job.

James Easterling and Anthony Malbrough are redshirt freshmen. Malbrough, in particular, is rusty from sitting out a year.

Sophomore fullback Sammy Morris averaged 7.8 yards per carry in eight games. The Red Raiders have had six 1,000-yard rushers in the last 10 years. But Hanspard was responsible for two of those seasons.

Lethridge's top receivers, junior Donnie Hart and senior Malcolm McKenzie, return.

Hart suffered a concussion in the opener at Kansas State and had problems holding onto the ball after that. As the season progressed, however, Hart became the go-to guy. In his breakout game against Texas, he caught five passes for 241 yards and two touchdowns.

Senior Stacy Mitchell also is a big-play threat, despite his size. At 5–5 and 150 pounds, he's among the smallest players in NCAA Division I-A. Mitchell also is an experienced kick returner.

Sophomore tight end Kyle Allamon started just five times because of injuries. He's a proven blocker and caught four passes, the only completions to a returning tight end.

Three of the linemen responsible for opening holes for Hanspard are gone. The only returning starters are seniors Jay Pugh and Chris Whitney. The offensive line was a recruiting priority, and Dykes is hoping junior college transfers can have an immediate impact. Junior Rick Fielder might be the best.

Junior defensive end Montae Reagor must assume leadership responsibilities, following Tony Daniels' early departure for the pro draft. Senior tackles Corey Chandler and Cody McGuire also are returning starters.

**41.4** That's the percentage of increase in the Red Raiders' home attendance the last two seasons. The average crowd at Jones Stadium in 1996 was 45,317.

Senior Eric Butler is the returning starter in the middle and the only linebacker with significant experience. Butler was involved in 68, despite being hampered by a late-season shoulder injury.

Sophomore Kevin McCullar was used on special teams until injuries to other players provided him an opportunity. Strong-side linebacker Ty Ardoin, a junior, also was a special-teams player.

The secondary should be the strength of the defense. Seniors Tony Darden and Dane Johnson, and junior Corey Turner are returning starters.

Junior Jaret Greaser made 12-of-18 field-goal attempts, including four against Oklahoma State. Junior Jeremy Hernandez averaged 41 yards punting.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| SE | 82 | **Donnie Hart (Jr., 2)**; 81 Tim Baker (Fr., 0) |
| LT | | Rick Fielder (Jr., 0); Johnathan Gray (Fr., 0) |
| LG | 66 | **Chris Whitney (Sr., 3)**; 60 Jayson Hansen (Sr., 1) |
| C | 63 | **Jay Pugh (Sr., 3)**; 50 Robert Haddon (Jr., 0) |
| RG | 77 | Erik Carruth (Jr., 1); Anthony Patricio (Jr., 0) |
| RT | 62 | Justin Collingsworth (Jr., 1); Shane Roberts (Jr., 0) |
| TE | 91 | Tim Winn (So., 0); 94 Kyle Allamom (So., 1) |
| QB | 8 | **Zebbie Lethridge (Sr., 3)**; 9 Rob Peters (So., 1) |
| FB | 42 | Sammy Morris (So., 1); 27 Rudolph Renda (So., 0) |
| IB | 2 | Clint Robertson (So., 1); 32 James Easterling (Fr., 0) |
| FL | 17 | Malcolm McKenzie (Sr., 3); 19 Mark Washington (Fr., 0) |
| K | 97 | **Jaret Greaser (Jr., 2)**; 98 Tony Rogers (Sr., 3) |

### DEFENSE (7)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| LE | 34 | **Montae Reagor (Jr., 2)**; 96 Duane Toliver (Fr., 0) |
| DT | 93 | **Corey Chandler (Sr., 3)**; 99 Cody Patton (Jr., 2) |
| NT | 74 | **Cody McGuire (Sr., 3)**; 90 Jason Jones (So., 1) |
| RE | 89 | Taurus Rucker (So., 1); 46 Keith Cumby (Jr., 1) |
| LB | 29 | Ty Ardoin (Jr., 2); 23 Reagan Bownds (Jr., 1) |
| LB | 48 | **Eric Butler (Sr., 3)**; 83 Kyle Shipley (So., 1) |
| LB | 5 | Kevin McCullar (So., 1); 26 Tim Duffie (So., 1) |
| CB | 11 | **Tony Darden (Sr., 3)**; 12 Rickey Hunter (Fr., 0) |
| CB | 21 | **Corey Turner (Jr., 2)**; 3 Darwin Brown (So., 1) |
| SS | 1 | Duane Price (Sr., 2); 36 Robby Cartwright (Jr., 1) |
| FS | 13 | **Dane Johnson (Sr., 3)**; 31 Joe Fite (Sr., 2) |
| P | 14 | **Jeremy Hernandez (Jr., 1)** |

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

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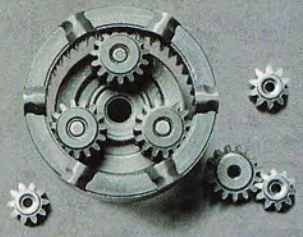

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# Southern Miss Golden Eagles

**Head Coach** ..... **Jeff Bower**
**1996 Record (C-USA)** ..... **8–3 (4–1)**
**1997 Prediction** ..... **2nd C-USA**
**Home Field** ..... **Roberts Stadium (33,000)**

If Southern Mississippi finishes the 1997 season with a 6–5 record, you can be sure the it will be the nation's best 6–5 team. Why?

The Golden Eagles face a brutal road slate, with non-conference games at Alabama, Florida, Illinois and Tennessee. Then there are Conference USA battles at Cincinnati, East Carolina and Memphis.

erry Phenix

Mike Moore

Mercifully, this should be the last season Southern Miss ever plays seven road games.

"If you're going to have a top-quality program, you have to play top-quality programs," coach Jeff Bower says. "Our program can compete nationally."

Interestingly, it is on the national level, and not within Mississippi, that USM is more highly regarded. But that is changing.

"We're getting more respect from the in-state media," says Bower, who adds that SEC members Mississippi and Mississippi State have refused to play USM for many years. "We need to be playing Ole Miss and Mississippi State. That would help reduce the number of kids leaving."

Bower is optimistic that the state's three Division I-A football programs eventually will resume their rivalries. He is also excited that Texas A&M will visit Hattiesburg in 1998.

Clearly, one can sense a certain excitement about the Southern Miss program and its C-USA home.

"This was a real good league in its first year," says Bower, avoiding the point that his team was the driving force behind the conference's success. "The additions of Army (1998) and UAB (1999) are only going to help."

Junior Lee Roberts is the kind of young man you'd feel comfortable having your 19-year-old daughter date. Confident, clean-cut and disciplined, his general persona transfers nicely to the football field.

"Lee's not going to wow you physically, but he is admired and respected by his teammates," Bower notes. "He has a lot of intangibles going for him."

"Roberts is a good decision-maker," Cincinnati coach Rick-Minter says. "He doesn't throw into a crowd. He's just got that kind of swagger."

Because of USM's run/pass balance, Roberts is capable of having a major year statistically. If he improves upon his numbers of 1996 (a 155.3 efficiency rating, a 60.6-percent completion mark), he should challenge East Carolina's Dan Gonzalez and Louisville's Chris Redman for all-conference honors.

Senior running back Eric Booth was sidelined for a few games by injury but did average 77.7 yards per game and 135.6 yards of all-purpose yardage. He is joined by senior Harold Shaw.

Last season, Sherrod Gideon clearly was the top freshman receiver in C-USA and one of the five best nationally. His numbers (15.2-yard average on 33 catches) figure to rise this fall.

Junior Eddie Shaw, Harold's brother, is another solid receiver, with the versatile Booth the team's third most dependable pass-catcher. The tight end is senior Terry Hardy, a prime NFL prospect.

Senior offensive guard Kasey Keith and junior tackle O'Lester Pope (combined weight: 660 pounds) anchor the right side. Sophomore left tackle Shederick Blackmon is a robust 6–6, 315-pounder. The left guard, senior Brandon Hambright, is a comparative lightweight (only 263), with the center set to be junior Jeff Hopgood.

The Golden Eagles' defense impressed folks with its big-play ability. Specifically, USM tallied 70 pass breakups and 11 forced fumbles, to their foes' 40 and two.

Senior end Robert Brown, who missed spring work to allow an injured shoulder to heal, totaled nine pass breakups. On the other side, sophomore Adalius Thomas was named to the C-USA All-Freshman team and performed double duty with the school's basketball team.

Senior middle linebacker Marchant Kenney is a gritty, gutsy package of enthusiasm, intensity and old-fashioned respect for the game. Flanking Kenney will be senior Lytrel Pollard and junior T.J. Slaughter.

**70/40** The number of pass breakups the Southern Miss defense totaled compared to the number of breakups its opponents accumulated.

Three seniors will give the USM secondary poise and punch – cornerback Patrick Surtain, who was all-conference, strong safety Perry Phenix, who was a second-team choice, and free safety Jamaal Alexander. The other corner spot could be manned by either sophomore Terrence Parrish or junior Jose Gonzales.

Sophomore punter Jamie Purser averaged 40.0 yards on 44 attempts and is considered a fine prospect. A kicker must be found.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

**WR** **11 Sherrod Gideon (So. 1)**; 82 Terry Carter (Sr., 2)
**LT** **70 Shederick Blackmon (So., 1)**; 79 Brian Bell (So., 0)
**LG** **76** Brandon Hambright (Sr., 2); 75 Charles Pumphrey (Sr., 2)
**C** **60** Jeff Hopgood (Jr., 1); 52 Frank Firestone (Jr., 0)
**RG** **74 Kasey Keith (Sr., 3)**; 69 Cole Green (Sr., 3)
**RT** **65 O'Lester Pope (Jr., 2)**; 73 Jeremy Lindley (Sr., 1)
**TE** **88 Terry Hardy (Sr., 3)**; 84 Jim Kitchen (Sr., 3)
**QB** **5 Lee Roberts (Jr., 2)**; Brian McLelland (Fr., 0)
**RB** **14** Harold Shaw (Sr., 3); **42 Tyrone Bolware (Jr., 2)**
**HB** **26 Eric Booth (Sr., 3)**; 35 Brandon Francis (So., 1)
**FL** **80** Todd Pinkston (So., 1); 25 Eddie Shaw (Jr., 2)
**K** **83** Graham Johnsen (Fr., 0)

### DEFENSE (7)

**DE** 48 Robert Brown (Sr., 3); 96 Cedric Scott (Fr., 0)
**NT** 95 Kendall Dunn (Sr., 3); 91 Melvin Winn (Sr., 2)
**DT** 99 Quantrelis Phillips (Sr., 1); 78 DeQuincey Scott (Fr., 0)
**DE** **97 Adalius Thomas (So, 1)**; 45 Marvin Brown (So., 1)
**LB** **21 Lytrel Pollard (Sr., 3)**; 16 Ty Trahan (So., 1)
**LB** **43 Marchant Kenney (Sr., 3)**; 46 Royal Bell (Fr., 0)
**LB** **34 T.J. Slaughter (Jr., 2)**; 38 Zaid Houston (Fr., 0)
**CB** **15 Patrick Surtain (Sr., 3)**; 3 Deshone Mallard (Jr., 0
**CB** 24 Terrence Parrish (So., 1); 2 Jose Gonzales (Jr. 0)
**FS** **19 Jamaal Alexander (Sr., 3)**; 27 Julius Williams (Jr., 0)
**SS** **20 Perry Phenix (Sr., 1)**; 13 Larry Watts (So., 1)
**P** **8 Jamie Purser (So., 1)**

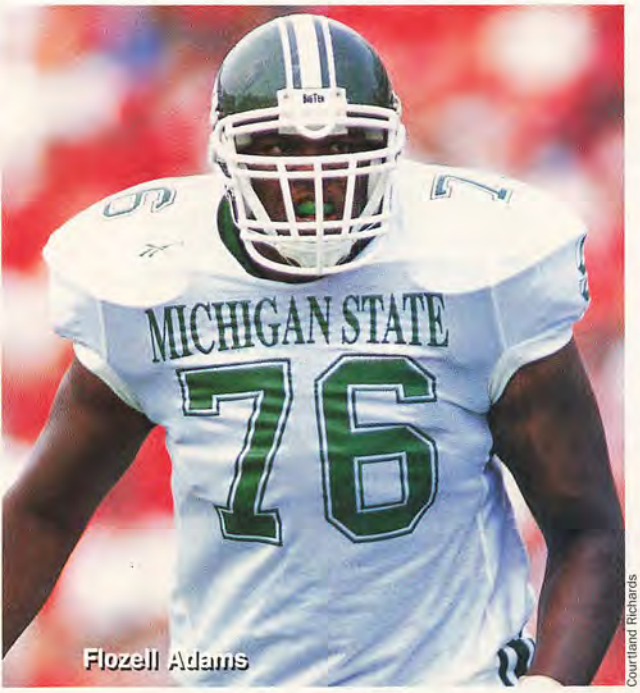
*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* **BOLD** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Michigan State Spartans

**Head Coach .....Nick Saban**
**1996 Record (Big 10) ....6–6 (5–3)**
**1997 Prediction .....7th Big 10**
**Home Field.....Spartan Stadium (72,027)**

Despite a 12–11–1 record in two years, including two bowl losses by a total of 57 points, Michigan State Coach Nick Saban quickly built a strong reputation in the Big Ten.

"People talk about Michigan State being one of the most likely (Big Ten) teams to compete consistently with the big three (Michigan, Ohio State and Penn State)," says ESPN Big Ten analyst Gary Danielson.



Flozell Adams

Courtland Richards

Before the Spartans can be considered a member of the big four, they must first navigate past Northwestern, Wisconsin and Iowa. Those four schools have recently made brief arguments for inclusion. So why does Danielson believe MSU has the potential to break through? Says Danielson, "If Saban is there in 10 years, they will be there. They'll make it the big four."

There's one catch. After being courted by the NFL's Giants, Saban decided to stay at MSU for now. But a decade? Don't count on it.

Senior quarterback Todd Schultz picked apart bad teams, but looked mediocre against better defenses that have speed and were able to put pressure on him.

Schultz's status remains somewhat uncertain. He injured his right knee three times last season and finally needed surgery. That forced him to miss spring practice.

If he's not ready, the job likely goes to sophomore Bill Burke, a left-hander who runs well but must improve his decision-making. Back injuries have hindered his development over the past year.

The Spartans could have the best trio of runners in the Big Ten. Sedrick Irvin rushed for 1,067 yards and scored 18 touchdowns as a freshman. Marc Renaud, who gained 1,057 yards as a sophomore, hopes to return after being academically ineligible.

The rising star, though, is sophomore Leroy McFadden, who practiced with the team last season but wasn't eligible because of an NCAA Clearinghouse snag. McFadden chose MSU over Nebraska and Michigan after attending a prep school for a year. He's the Spartans' fastest back.

Senior Octavis Long, 4.3 speed, has learned to catch the ball more consistently and will be the No. 1 deep threat. Sophomore Gari Scott had an excellent spring and has shown long-ball potential.

Tight end Josh Keur is a good blocker but dropped some passes in crucial situations.

Flozell Adams, a 6–7, 325-pound tackle, anchors the line. In the past, he has played on the right side because he has trouble hearing with his right ear. Most standout tackles play on the left side, a right-handed quarterback's blind side. This spring, equipped with a special hearing device, Adams moved to the left side. Draft analyst Mel Kiper projected him as a possible late first-round pick in last spring's NFL draft, but Adams opted to return to MSU for his final year.

Two other seniors, guard Dave Mudge and tackle Scott Shaw, will start. The Spartans lack depth on the line.

The Spartans thought they had a potential All-Big Ten defensive tackle, possibly a future All-America candidate, in sophomore Robert Newkirk. But Newkirk was suspended by Saban after being charged with illegal use of a credit card, and he's not expected to return.

That moves sophomore Pete Govens into a starting role at tackle with junior Desmond Thomas.

The addition of sophomore Robaire Smith should allow MSU to move Courtney Ledyard from defensive end to his normal position at linebacker. Smith and junior Dimitrius Underwood are the projected starting ends.

Linebacker Ike Reese, sixth in the Big Ten with 115 tackles, should be among the candidates for the Butkus Award. The Spartans must replace Reggie Garnett, a four-year starter at middle linebacker. The top candidate is sophomore Mike Austin. He made 63 tackles as a freshman and won the job during the spring.

**83–26** That's how bad MSU has been outscored in Nick Saban's two bowl games, including 38–0 against Stanford in last year's Sun Bowl.

Junior Amp Campbell and senior Ray Hill will be the starting cornerbacks. Junior Sorie Kanu is the free safety, and senior Dan Hackenbracht earned the strong safety job, but tore his ACL and will miss most of the season. Sophomore Aric Morris is now the man there.

Senior kicker Chris Gardner improved his range. Two years ago, the coaches didn't trust him with long field-goal attempts. Last season, he made seven from at least 43 yards, including two 49-yarders. Sophomore Paul Edinger, recruited as a kicker, got forced into the punting duties but averaged 41 yards.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

**WR** 20 Octavis Long (Sr., 2); 7 Lavaile Richardson (So., 0)
**LT** **76 Flozell Adams (Sr., 3)**; 70 Dave Sucura (Fr., 0)
**LG** **73 Scott Shaw (Sr., 2)**; 60 Mike Schutz (So., 0)
**C** 79 Jason Strayhorn (Jr., 0); 50 Brian Grant (Fr., 0)
**RG** 64 Casey Jensen (So., 1); 71 Shaun Mason (Fr., 0)
**RT** **65 Dave Mudge (Sr., 2)**; 75 Shane Adkins (So., 0)
**TE** **83 Josh Keur (Sr, 3)**; 88 Kyle Rance (So., 1)
**QB** **9 Todd Schultz (Sr., 2)**; 16 Bill Burke (So., 1)
**FB** **45 Garrett Gould (Jr., 2)**; 41 Travis Reece (Sr., 3)
**TB** 33 Sedrick Irvin (So., 1); 18 Leroy McFadden (So., 0)
**WR** 86 Gari Scott (So., 1); 4 Damien Hiram (Sr., 2)
**K** **14 Chris Gardner (Sr., 3)**

### DEFENSE (8)

**DE** **99 Dimitrius Underwood (Jr., 2)**; 59 R. Miller (So., 0)
**DT** 66 Desmond Thomas (Jr., 1); 69 Brandon Call (So., 0)
**DT** 92 Pete Govens (So., 1); 67 Damon Patton (Jr., 0)
**DE** 91 Robaire Smith (So., 0); 89 Matt Bonito (Fr., 0)
**LB** **53 Courtney Ledyard (Jr., 2); 25 Mike Austin (So., 1)**
**LB** 37 Tyrone Garland (Sr., 3); 56 Dwayne Hawkins (Jr., 2)
**LB** **44 Ike Reese (Sr., 3)**; 38 Sean Banks (So., 0)
**CB** **3 Amp Campbell (Jr., 1)**; 24 Richard Brown (So., 0)
**CB** **10 Ray Hill (Sr., 2); 29 Lemar Marshall (Jr., 2)**
**SS** 39 Aric Morris (So., 1); 28 Dan Hackenbracht (Sr., 2)
**FS** **6 Sorie Kanu (Jr., 2)**; 31 Shawn Wright (So., 1)
**P** **1 Paul Edinger (So., 1)**

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* **BOLD** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Navy Midshipmen

Head Coach .....Charlie Weatherbie
1996 Record .....9–3
Home Field.....Memorial Stadium (30,000)

Navy football was the real McCoy last year. Led by senior quarterback Chris McCoy, who is billed as a Heisman Trophy candidate, Navy hopes to better last year's 9–3 season, its first winning campaign since 1982.

They're not laughing any more at Charlie Weatherbie, who boasted, "I think we can win immediately," when he became Navy's head coach in 1995. "Immediately" turned out to be in his second year, which was still better than most folks expected. In fact, the 5–6 record of 1995 was far better than expected, considering Navy had won that many games only once in the previous 12 years. Two of the Midshipmen's losses a year ago were by five points to Boston College and four to Army.

Chris McCoy

John Betancourt

"I think the expectations just keep getting higher, stronger and better," Weatherbie says. "I like expectations being high, and I think our young men are excited about 1997."

The Midshipmen return five starters on offense and seven on defense to face a schedule that includes only one national power (Notre Dame), giving Navy a chance to approach last year's record.

Weatherbie's spread-option offense — a run-and-shoot/wishbone combination — ranked fifth nationally in rushing at 283.6 yards a game. McCoy became the first quarterback in Naval Academy history to rush for 1,000 yards (1,228) and set another record with 16 rushing touchdowns.

"Chris has good quickness and good leg strength," Weatherbie says. "He can break tackles and he changes direction well. He has real good peripheral vision and can make people miss."

McCoy has improved the passing part of his game, although he completed just 49 of 109 passes (45 percent) for 759 yards and six touchdowns, with four interceptions. Junior Jon Limbert, the junior varsity starter, has the edge as a backup.

Last year's ground attack produced the second- and third-highest rushing totals in Navy history: 463 yards against Wake Forest, 386 against Delaware. Senior fullback Tim Cannada will get full-time duty. Cannada rushed for 379 yards and a 4.9 average.

Navy's offense uses two slotbacks, a position that requires players to run effectively, make tough catches and block. Senior Pat McGrew, a season-long starter, is the only one with any experience; he rushed for 204 yards. On the other side, junior Jason Wolf is the front-runner.

The concern at wide receiver is a lack of experience. Navy lost its top two pass-catchers but returns senior LeBron Butts, who had 14 receptions. Junior Mark Mill is the likely starter opposite Butts.

Familiar faces will anchor the interior of the offensive line, but both tackles must be replaced. Senior Brian Drechsler has started every game at center for the last two seasons and is flanked by senior guards J.D. Gainey and David Loya. At tackle, Weatherbie expects a lot from juniors Michael Wahle and Blaine Kindler.

The right side of the defensive line returns senior end Michael Ogden and junior tackle Jason Snider. On the left side, senior Denis Kane takes over the end spot vacated by Tom Poulter, and senior tackle David Viger hopes to put last year's injury-plagued campaign behind him.

The most noticeable absence on Navy's 4–2–5 defense is at linebacker, where Clint Bruce was the inspirational leader as well as the leading tackler with 125 hits. Weatherbie thinks senior Travis Cooley, who started all but one game, could be a Bruce clone. Senior Jason Coffey is penciled in as the other starter.

**30.8** The number of yards per pass completion by Chris McCoy in the Aloha Bowl win over California, an NCAA bowl-game record. McCoy completed 9-of-13 passes for 277 yards.

Experience won't be a concern in the secondary because Navy returns four starters. The Middies use five defensive backs: a weak safety, a strong safety, two cornerbacks and a free safety.

Senior cornerback Sean Andrews earned second-team All-America honors in 1995; last year, he was in on 38 tackles and broke up eight passes. Senior free safety Gervy Alota was second on the team in tackles.

Senior Kevin Lewis will start at strong safety. The most likely successor at cornerback is senior Gerald Wilson, but junior Enrico Hunter should also see some playing time. To replace Smith at weak safety, look for junior Desmond Morgan and senior Charles Fisher to fight it out.

Navy has acceptable placekickers in junior Tom Vanderhorst (6-of-12) and sophomore Tim Shubzda (4-of-6). Senior Jason Covarrubias (38.8-yard average) returns as the punter.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

**WR** 17 Mark Mill (Jr., 1); 81 Travis Williams (So., 0)
**LT** 66 Michael Wahle (Jr., 0); 79 Jared Jacobs (Sr., 0)
**LG** **69 J.D. Gainey (Sr., 2)**; 76 Brian Brown (So., 0)
**C** **55 Brian Drechsler (Sr., 2)**; 60 Kostas Hatzidakis (So., 0)
**RG** 73 David Loya (Sr., ); 75 Derek Peterson (Jr., 0)
**RT** 77 Blaine Kindler (Jr., 0); 63 Kyle Turner (Jr., 0)
**QB** **7 Chris McCoy (Sr., 2)**; 19 Jon Limbert (Jr., 0)
**WR** **84 LeBron Butts (Sr., )**; 82 Shane Kenney (Jr., 0)
**FB** 26 Tim Cannada (Sr., ); 35 Irv Dingle (Jr., 1)
**RB** **34 Pat McGrew (Sr., 3)**; 39 Maurice White (Sr., 0)
**RB** 33 Jason Wolf (Jr., 0); 44 John Vereen (So., 0)
**K** **78 Tom Vanderhorst (Jr., 1)**; 85 Tim Shubzda (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (7)

**DE** 14 Denis Kane (Sr., 2); 94 Brian Wilson (So., 1)
**DT** 91 David Viger (Sr., 2); 61 Greg Adams (Jr., 0)
**DT** **97 Jason Snider (Jr., 1)**; 65 David Ryno (So., 0)
**DE** **92 Michael Ogden (Sr., 2)**; 98 Mike Marchetti (So., 0)
**LB** 58 Jason Coffey (Sr., 2); 56 Russ Tate (Sr., 1)
**LB** **50 Travis Cooley (Sr., 1)**; 10 Rashad Smith (Sr., 1)
**CB** **29 Sean Andrews (Sr., 2)**; 39 Gary Lane (So., 0)
**CB** 2 Gerald Wilson (Sr., 1); 3 Enrico Hunter (Jr., 1)
**SS** **43 Kevin Lewis (Sr., 2)**; 28 Matt Shubzda (Sr., 0)
**FS** **6 Gervy Alota (Sr., 3)**; 18 Adam Crecion (Jr., 2)
**WS** **22 Desmond Morgan (Jr., 1)**; 48 Charles Fisher (Sr., 1)
**P** **13 Jason Covarrubias (Sr., )**; 15 Derek Hotchkiss (Jr., 0)

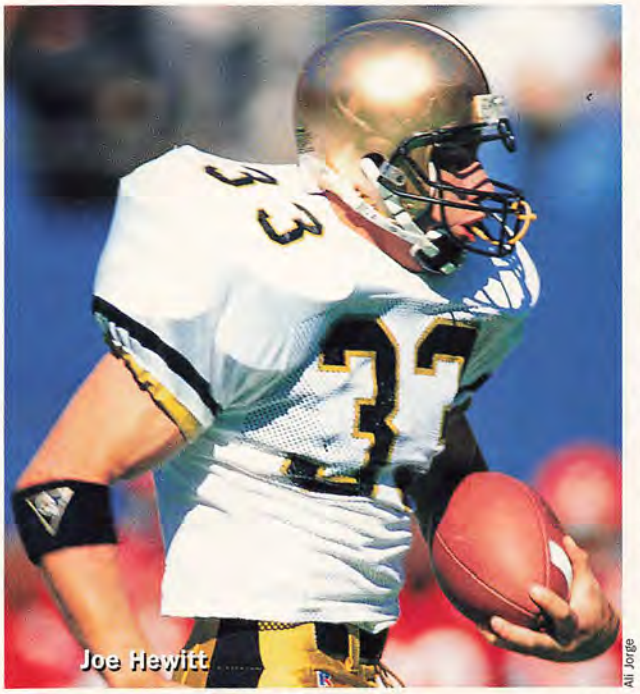
(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

# Army Cadets

Head Coach .....Bob Sutton
1996 Record.....10–2
Home Field.....Michie Stadium (39,929)

These were the words of Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf to the Corps of Cadets in 1991:

"When you take that field, you take that field to do one thing, and that's to win. Losing, in our business, is unacceptable. You should never, ever, ever settle for a loss. Don't ever compromise for a loss because you are Army and your country cannot afford for its Army to lose."


Joe Hewitt
Ali Jorge

The Black Knights of the Hudson took that message to heart last year with a 10–2 season — a school record for victories — a fifth straight win over Navy, a near-miss 32–29 loss to heavily favored Auburn in the Independence Bowl, the Commander-in-Chief Trophy for the first time since 1988 and a spot in the season-ending polls for the first time since 1985.

That was a year ago.

"I want our players to feel proud of what they accomplished last year," coach Bob Sutton says. "What I don't want them to do is to sit back and assume because we were successful in 1996, that same success will follow in 1997."

On paper, Sutton faces a major rebuilding job with the loss of eight starters on offense and eight on defense. Behind them, however, is a host of players with lots of game experience.

"We probably play more players during the course of a game than most schools in the country," says Sutton, whose program will begin play in Conference USA in 1998. "We like to consistently rotate fresh people into the lineup, providing our young players with significant game experience. That's why we will return a much more veteran club than what might appear on paper."

Army must replace three-year starter Ronnie McAda, widely regarded as the academy's finest wishbone quarterback. Senior Adam Thompson, an elusive runner who gets to the corner quickly, started two games in place of an injured McAda. Last fall, Thompson completed 12-of-17 passes for 188 yards and three touchdowns.

Thompson's absence to play baseball gave the majority of the spring snaps to multitalented junior Johnny Goff, an elusive runner with a strong throwing arm. They will battle it out in the preseason.

"I feel confident that either one will make his own impact on our offense," Sutton says. "We have the makings of a very good offensive football team."

The top three fullbacks — junior Joe Hewitt, senior Demetrius Perry and junior Ty Amey — return. They'll complement junior halfback Bobby Williams.

Hewitt (839 yards, 6.0 per-carry average, six touchdowns), Williams (611, 6.5, eight) and Perry (473, 4.2, six) ranked 1–2–3 on the 1996 rushing chart, which saw seven Cadets carry the ball for at least 221 yards.

Dangerous junior Rod Richardson (six catches, 81 yards) and reliable senior Brad Miller (five catches, 169 yards) will share the split end position. Senior Chris Dunning is the heir apparent at tight end.

The offensive line appears to have been ravaged by graduation. But there are plenty of seasoned performers, led by senior starters Dave Beard at tackle and Jeff Enck, switching from guard to center. Tackle Matt Yost and guards Neil Ravitz, a junior, and senior Jeremy Chapman are likely starters.

Sutton is much more concerned about his defense than the offense.

All three interior linemen graduated, but senior tackle Scott Fagan and senior nose guard Jeff Forgach will help ease the losses. Junior end Larry Angles returns after starting every game. Sophomore David Hageman is penciled in at the other end.

The knight position, which Army defines as a combination of defensive end and linebacker, will be a battle between senior Mike Coerper and sophomore Marcus Jackson.

**5** The number of consecutive times Army has defeated archrival Navy, equaling the longest winning streak for either side in the history of the series.

Linebacking is is one area that shouldn't bring a frown to Sutton's face. Senior Joe Sachitano was the team's leading tackler.

The secondary lost three starters and returns only senior free safety Robert Brown, a candidate for postseason honors. Of the other three projected starters, only junior strong safety Jamar Mullen has earned a letter, having seen extensive action in nickel situations last year.

Senior punter Scot Lord averaged 40.9 yards a kick with great hang time. J. Parker, who scored all the placekicking points of the last two seasons, graduated, leaving the job to junior Eric Olsen, whose only kick from placement was a missed PAT in 1995.

Richardson and Miller figure to handle the bulk of the kickoff and punt returns.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | 1 Rod Richardson (Jr., 1); 5 Brad Miller (Sr., 2) |
| LT | **51 Dave Beard (Sr., 2)**; 74 Rashidi Hodari (Jr., 0) |
| LG | 71 Neil Ravitz (Jr. , 1); 78 Nate Allard (Jr., 0) |
| C | **67 Jeff Enck (Sr., 2)**; 54 George McIngvale (Jr., 0) |
| RG | 69 Jeremy Chapman (Sr., 1); Mark Prehar (So., 0) |
| RT | 66 Matt Yost (Sr., 1); 73 Brian Connolly (Jr., 0) |
| TE | 86 Chris Dunning (Sr., 1); 87 Theo Unbehagen (Sr., 2) |
| QB | 6 Adam Thompson (Sr., 2); 9 Johnny Goff (Jr., 0) |
| FB | **33 Joe Hewitt (Jr., 1)**; 23 Demetrius Perry (Sr., 2) |
| R | **49 Bobby Williams (Jr., 2)**; 40 Robert Lalumondier (Jr., 0) |
| R | 20 Vaughn Carpenter (Jr., 0); 30 John Johnson (So., 0) |
| K | 14 Eric Olsen (Jr., 1) |

### DEFENSE (3)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | **76 Larry Angles (Jr., 2)**; 58 Brian King (Jr., 2) |
| DT | 80 Scott Fagan (So., 1); Brian Kavanaugh (So., 0) |
| NG | 64 Jeff Forgach (Sr., 3); 88 Scott Kozak (So., 0) |
| DE | 78 David Hageman (So., 0); 90 Nate Smith (Sr., 0) |
| LB | 93 Mike Coerper (Sr., 2); 79 Marcus Jackson (So., 0) |
| LB | 56 Scott Sprawls (Sr., 1); 61 Kevin Koger (So., 0) |
| LB | **21 Joe Sachitano (Sr., 2)**; 59 Brandon Tilford (Jr., 0) |
| CB | 25 Tim Gatlin (Jr., 0); 32 Bo French (Sr., 1) |
| CB | 47 Scott Williams (Jr., 0); Brandon Holden (So., 0) |
| SS | 28 Jamar Mullen (Jr., 1); Chris Vegas (So., 0) |
| FS | **18 Robert Brown (Sr., 2)**; 39 Ken Rowland (Jr., 0) |
| P | **91 Scot Lord (Sr., 1)**; 13 Graham White (So., 0) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Mississippi State Bulldogs

**Head Coach** .....Jackie Sherrill
**1996 Record (SEC)** .....5–6 (3–5)
**1997 Prediction** .....4th SEC West
**Home Field**.....Scott Field (40,656)

Two consecutive years without a bowl trip has made the Mississippi State faithful restless, and coach Jackie Sherrill is hoping that a mixture of veterans and newcomers will return the Bulldogs to postseason play.

Last year's 5–6 team had its moments but spent most of the season trying to adapt to new schemes devised by first-year coordinators Lynn Amedee (offense) and Joe Lee Dunn (defense).

Eric Dotson

Joe Robbins

The Bulldogs return a school-record 58 lettermen, and Sherrill has stepped up his recruiting efforts in the state's talent-rich junior college system. Five juco signees practiced with the team this spring and figure to make an impact.

Sherrill says, "Mississippi has great junior college football, so why not recruit players who've played against two years of tough competition? You get a more mature player, and that's a plus when I'm filling immediate needs."

Amedee faced a delicate situation last year when trying to balance the feelings of incumbent starter Derrick Taite against the obvious talent of Matt Wyatt, who fit Amedee's system and philosophy better. When Wyatt started two games in place of an injured Taite, it became obvious that he was State's quarterback of the future.

Wyatt, a sophomore, isn't a scrambler, but he has the size (6–5, 221) that Amedee is looking for. He was named to the SEC All-Freshman team after finishing the year with 830 passing yards and seven touchdowns.

Mississippi State's 1996 campaign began to unravel after tailback Keffer McGee sustained a season-ending knee injury in Game 3 at South Carolina. McGee was leading the SEC in rushing.

McGee, a senior, participated gingerly in spring drills and didn't see contact. Senior Robert Isaac, who replaced McGee last fall, is a nifty runner.

The player to watch is junior college transfer J.J. Johnson, a 6–2, 215-pounder from East Mississippi Community College. Johnson averaged 6.8 yards per carry last year.

Senior Nakia Greer is an exceptional runner (4.9-yard average), a powerful blocker and one of the best receiving fullbacks in the league.

Returning starting receivers Lamont Woodberry and Lahitia Grant are both 6–1, 220-pound battlers who can haul in passes with defenders hanging onto them. Woodberry, a senior, recorded 27 catches for 305 yards and two touchdowns, while Grant, a junior, grabbed 22 passes for 333 yards and five TDs. Sherrill has bolstered the group with two junior college All-Americans, water bug Kevin Prentiss (5–9, 150) and James "Blue" Jones.

Junior tight ends John Jennings and Reginald Kelly have the speed to shake free in the middle of opposing defenses.

There's just one returning starter on the offensive line. Senior tackle Robert Hicks, a preseason All-SEC candidate, is virtually impossible to move. Sherrill came up big on the junior college circuit, signing All-American Randy Thomas and former *USA Today* prep All-American Brad Elmore. Also in the mix is Virginia Tech transfer Anthony Kapp.

Senior nose guard Eric Dotson's 6-3, 343-pound frame can plug a lot of holes. Senior end Gregory Favors recorded 101 tackles, 25 quarterback pressures and a league-leading 12½ sacks. Bolstering the line even further is senior tackle James Grier, another 300-pounder who appears fully recovered from season-ending knee surgery.

Sophomore tackle Kevin Sluder closed out last season with four tackles, two pass deflections and a 60-yard fumble return for a touchdown against archrival Ole Miss.

Senior Earnest Garner moves to middle linebacker, where he hopes to be the Bulldogs' primary stopper. He was second on the team with 109 tackles, four sacks and nine QB hurries. Senior Dereck Rush figures to be the other starter inside.

The secondary returns virtually intact, led by senior safety Eric Brown, who shook off injuries to make 47 tackles. Former quarterback Izell McGill is a big-play cornerback who deflected 15 passes.

**663** That's the combined weight of nose guard Eric Dotson (343) and defensive tackle James Grier (320), who should make life difficult for running backs seeking to breach State's front wall.

Junior cornerback Adesola Badon finished with 35 stops and eight pass breakups.

Sherrill's faith in Brian Hazelwood seems unshakable, though the junior placekicker faded somewhat last season after making seven of his first 11 field-goal attempts.

Sophomore punter Jeff Walker, who Sherrill claims has "the strongest leg I've ever coached," may be the answer to replacing Andy Russ and his 46.5-yard average.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | **4 Lahitia Grant (Jr., 2);** 28 Jeremy Jones (Jr., 2) |
| LT | 67 Sam Baker (Sr., 3); 78 Anthony Kapp (Jr., 0) |
| LG | 60 Burt Ashley (Sr., 3); 52 Michael Fair (Fr., 0) |
| C | 53 Eric Allen (Jr., 2); 75 Brad Elmore (Jr., 0) |
| RG | 69 Stoney Price (Jr., 2); 77 Randy Thomas (Jr., 0) |
| RT | **76 Robert Hicks (Sr., 3);** 51 Allan Smith (Sr., 3) |
| TE | 89 Reginald Kelly (Jr., 2); **81 John Jennings (Jr., 2)** |
| QB | 7 Matt Wyatt (So., 1); 10 Rob Morgan (So., 1) |
| FB | **31 Nakia Greer (Sr., 3);** 39 Dennis McKinley (Jr., 2) |
| TB | **36 Robert Isaac (Sr., 3);** 37 Chris Rainey (So., 1) |
| FL | **1 Lamont Woodberry (Sr., 1);** 23 Matthew Butler (So., 1) |
| K | **15 Brian Hazelwood (Jr., 2);** 42 Jeff Walker (So., 1) |

### DEFENSE (8)

| | |
|---|---|
| RE | 46 Larry Campbell (Jr., 2); 40 Cornell Menafee (So., 1) |
| RT | 48 Kevin Sluder (So., 1); 93 Marvin Coley (Jr., 0) |
| NG | **98 Eric Dotson (Sr., 2);** 99 Kenwoynne Smith (Jr., 2) |
| LT | 90 James Grier (Sr, 3); 47 Jamil Graham (So., 1) |
| LE | **56 Gregory Favors (Sr., 3);** 58 Kenneth Knotts (Jr., 2) |
| LB | 41 Dereck Rush (Sr., 1); 45 Barrin Simpson (So., 1) |
| LB | **54 Earnest Garner (Sr., 1);** 55 Edward Yeates (So., 1) |
| CB | **25 Adesola Badon (Jr., 2); 24 Kendall Roberson (So., 1)** |
| CB | **8 Izell McGill (Sr., 3);** 14 Eugene Clinton (Fr., 0) |
| SS | **18 Eric Brown (Sr., 1);** 3 Kenzaki Jones (So., 1) |
| FS | **17 Tim Nelson (So., 1);** 5 Eric Daniel (Jr., 2) |
| P | 42 Jeff Walker (So., 1) |

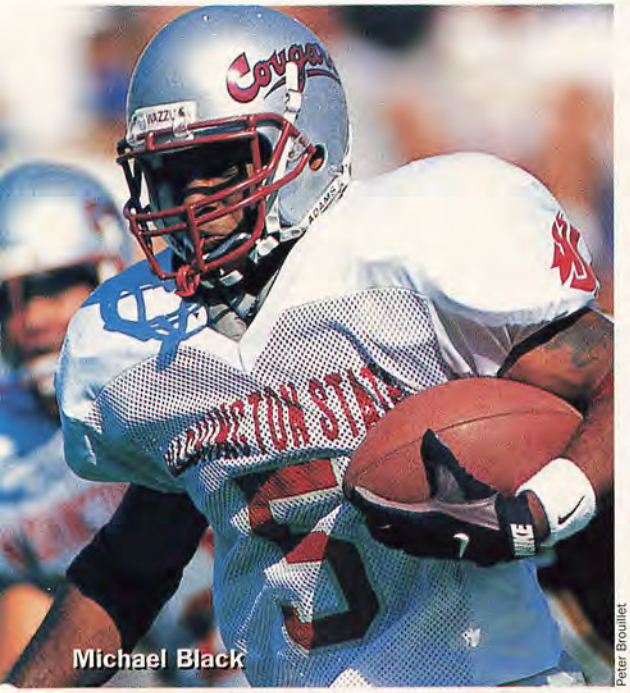
*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Washington State Cougars

Head Coach ..... Mike Price
1996 Record (Pac-10).... 5–6 (3–5)
1997 Prediction ..... 6th Pac-10
Home Field..... Martin Stadium (37,600)

When Mike Price talks about Washington State, the first thing he mentions is speed, especially in a defense where the slowest player, linebacker Todd Nelson, runs a 40-yard dash in 4.8 seconds.

"I know we're going to be pretty fast," Price says. "And we'll know how good we'll be pretty quick."


Michael Black

Peter Brouillet

That's because Washington State has switched its Pac-10 game with UCLA to Aug. 30.

"And we have USC and Illinois on the road in September, and I don't think we've beaten USC in the Coliseum in 50 years (it's actually been 40)," Price says.

If the Cougars can hold their own, it will be because they have Ryan Leaf at quarterback. Leaf, a junior, broke all of Drew Bledsoe's sophomore records at Washington State. At 6–6, 246-pounds, he has a vertical leap of 38 inches and runs a 4.6-second 40. Moreover, Leaf has an arm that launches footballs great distances.

His accuracy has to improve, along with decision-making that will better last year's 52 percent completion mark and cut back on the interceptions (12).

Senior running back Michael Black established himself at West Los Angeles Junior College before pulling in to Pullman, where he rushed for 948 yards. Black also caught 18 passes.

"We need to find more ways to get Black the ball," says Price.

The Cougars use a fullback only in short-yardage situations, when converted linebacker Chris Dixon, a junior, gets the call.

Six of the Cougars top eight receivers are back, including senior starters Shawn Tims and Shawn McWashington, and junior Nian Taylor who adds to his playing time as a reverse runner and kick returner.

An injury near the end of the season cost senior tight end Jon Kincaid spring practice. Junior Love Jefferson stepped in, with sophomore Ivan Mercer pushing him.

On the offensive line, junior Rob Rainville and sophomore Jon Ottenbreit battle it out for the left tackle position vacated by All-American Scott Sanderson. Pass protection for Leaf could drop a notch, but Black and his running mates should find more room. They'd better. The Cougars finished next-to-last in the Pac-10 in rushing and managed just 14 overland touchdowns.

Center Cory Withrow, left guard Jason McEndoo and right tackle Ryan McShane all return to the lineup as seniors. Juniors Mickey Long and Mike Sage will move in and out at right guard.

Tackles Gary Holmes and Leon Bender, missed spring ball to rehabilitate injuries. If Bender, a senior, and Holmes, a junior, both 300-pounders, make it back, Washington State will have the biggest defense in the Pac-10.

Dorian Boose and Shane Doyle are senior starters at end, and senior Brad Lawson, junior Jonathan Nance and sophomore Rob Meier will get plenty of time as backups. All five play anywhere on the defensive line. Nance led the team in sacks with seven. Boose, who notched 6½, weighs 280 and runs a scary 4.6 40. Doyle is only a step slower. Sophomore Eboni Wilson, at 244, is the fastest of all, and he's ready for playing time either on the line or at linebacker.

Washington State linebackers only made one sack and two interceptions in '96. Senior Brandon Moore, who started at weak-side linebacker, is the Cougars' best returning tackler. Senior Todd Nelson replaces middle linebacker James Darling, and Corey Scott, a junior-college transfer, is ready to play. Sophomore Steve Gleason mans the strong-side. Don't forget Wilson, who could lend some big-play capability at linebacker if he doesn't play in the line.

Defensive backs were a strong point of last year's secondary. Junior Dee Moronkola, with 4.3 speed, returns at cornerback. Sophomore LeJuan Gibbons and junior college recruit Earl Riley are vying for the other cornerback position.

**14** The number of rushing touchdowns scored by Washington State a year ago, with Michael Black running for eight and Ryan Leaf sneaking for six.

Duane Stewart, a 215-pound, senior strong safety, tallied a team-leading three interceptions and was third on the team in tackles with 71. Senior Ray Jackson steps in at free safety

Punter Jeff Banks averaged 42.8 yards a year ago, but he had three blocked. Rian Lindell, redshirted as a freshman, is ready to become the placekicker with what Price calls "the strongest leg we've had since Jason Hanson."

Moronkola and Taylor averaged 24.7 and 21.1 yards respectively on kickoff returns, while Tims is the leading punt returner, with 17 for an 11.4-yard average.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | 82 Nian Taylor (Jr., 1); 48 Richard LeBlanc (Jr., 0) |
| LT | 79 Rob Rainville (Jr. , 1); Jon Ottenbreit (So., 1) |
| LG | **66 Jason McEndoo (Sr., 3)**; 55 Mark Nason (Sr., 1) |
| C | **71 Cory Withrow (Sr., 3)**; 62 Lee Harrison (Sr., 1) |
| RG | 77 Mike Sage (Jr., 2); 78 Mickey Long (Jr., 1) |
| RT | 76 Ryan McShane (Sr., 3); 73 Reed Raymond (Fr., 0) |
| TE | 89 Love Jefferson (Jr., 1); 84 Jon Kincaid (Sr., 2) |
| QB | **16 Ryan Leaf (Jr., 2)**; 13 Steve Birnbaum (So., 1) |
| SB | **8 Shawn Tims (Sr., 3)**; 9 Kevin McKenzie (Sr., 1) |
| RB | **5 Michael Black (Sr., 1)**; 24 Jason Clayton (Jr., 0) |
| FL | **45 S. McWashington (Sr., 3)**; 81 Chris Jackson (Sr., 1) |
| K | 29 Rian Lindell (So., 0); 93 Colin Farnell (So., 0) |

### DEFENSE (6)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | **90 Dorian Boose (Sr., 1)**; 99 Jonathan Nance (Jr., 1) |
| DT | **95 Gary Holmes (Jr., 2)**; 93 Delmar Morais (Jr., 2) |
| DT | **91 Leon Bender (Sr., 0)**; 35 Takari Blash (So., 0) |
| DE | **46 Shane Doyle (Sr., 1)**; 55 Eboni Wilson (So., 0) |
| LB | **22 Brandon Moore (Sr., 2)**; 44 Grady Emmerson (So., 1) |
| LB | 43 Todd Nelson (Sr., 2); 56 Austin Matson (Fr., 0) |
| LB | 34 Steve Gleason (Sr., 1); 21 Kenny Moore (Sr., 2) |
| CB | 6 Dee Moronkola (Jr., 2); 23 Nep Drummer (So., 0) |
| CB | 28 Jermaine Hunsaker (Fr., 0); 31 LeJuan Gibbons (So., 0)' |
| SS | **25 Duane Stewart (Sr., 3)**; 29 Torry Hollimon (So., 1) |
| FS | 2 Ray Jackson (Sr., 3); 38 Alex Tinsley (Fr., 0) |
| P | **12 Jeff Banks (Sr., 1)** |

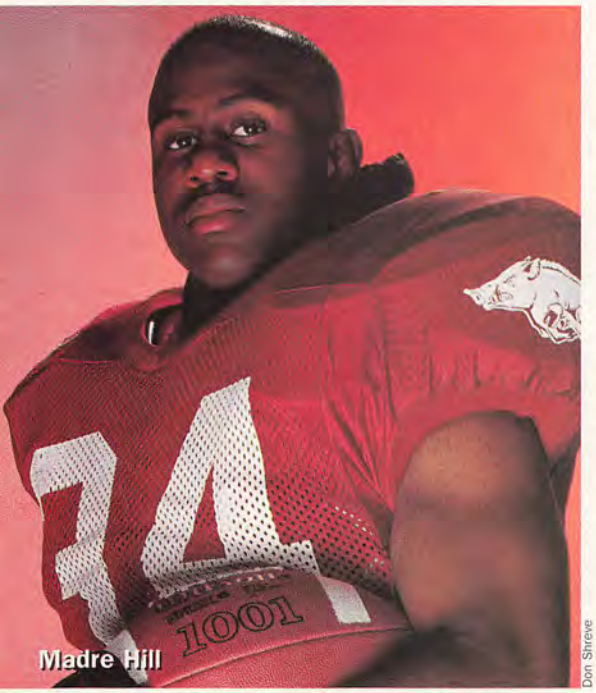
(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

# Arkansas Razorbacks

**Head Coach** .....Danny Ford
**1996 Record (SEC)** .....4–7 (2–6)
**1997 Prediction** .....5th SEC West
**Home Field**.....Razorback Stadium (51,000)

The Razorbacks went from Western Division champs in '95 to Western Division chumps in '96 as debilitating injuries depleted the offense. The result was a 4–7 record, matching coach Danny Ford's worst season in 15 years of coaching.

Since taking the helm in 1993, Ford has complained about not having enough athletes to compete in the SEC. Now, after five recruiting classes, he's off that soapbox.


Madre Hill

Don Shreve

"This group shouldn't just compete in the SEC, they should win in the SEC," Ford says.

Starting quarterback Pete Burks returns, but the position is wide open. Burks impressed no one last year, and threw more interceptions (nine) than touchdowns (six) and had a dismal 51.3 completion percentage. Clint Stoerner, Burks' backup, looked as unsure of himself as Burks did as he threw six interceptions while completing just 11 passes.

Newcomers may provide the talent that first-year quarterbacks coach Joe Ferguson can mold into an SEC-caliber leader. They are redshirt freshman Jim Ed Reed and *USA TODAY* state Player of the Year Jared McBride of Nashville, Ark., who recorded an amazing 4,049 passing yards last year in high school.

When Madre Hill tore knee ligaments in the 1995 SEC championship game against Florida, nobody anticipated that it would take the star tailback more than 18 months to recover. Two years ago, he set a school rushing record with 1,387 yards and 15 touchdowns. Without Hill, Arkansas gained just 1,695 yards on the ground as a team.

Hill's return furnishes the Razorback attack with a breakaway threat. His backup is Chrys Chukwuma, whose explosive style is offset by his penchant for fumbling.

New offensive coordinator Kay Stephenson likes a two-back set, so finding a fullback is a priority. Nathan Norman is the first option.

Another devastating injury happened in the opening game when flanker Anthony Lucas suffered a season-ending knee injury. He grabbed 27 passes for 526 yards and four TDs in 1995.

Lucas' absence put pressure on senior split end Anthony Eubanks, who tallied 809 yards and five TDs, and accounted for 51 of the Hogs' 127 receptions. The Lucas-Eubanks tandem could be a productive one if the Razorbacks can find a quarterback who can deliver the ball.

Tight end Al Heringer broke his leg in preseason drills and missed the '96 campaign.

A line that provided adequate protection for Burks last year has three returning starters, all juniors: center Grant Garrett and guards Russ Brown and Brandon Burlsworth. The latter was one of Arkansas' more consistent linemen last year, earning a scholarship after originally joining the team as a walk-on. The starting tackles will be determined in fall camp.

Geno Bell's season-ending back injury in the opening game forced nose guard Melvin Bradley to become a dominating defender. Bradley, a junior, notched 89 tackles, including 14 for losses, and seven sacks. He led the Razorbacks in tackles. Bradley is so quick that he occasionally played end in passing situations. Now that Bell, a senior, is healthy, he'll move from nose guard to tackle, where he started for two years.

There are four defensive ends with experience, led by Ken Anderson and Ryan Hale, last year's starters. Hale made life miserable for Florida quarterback Danny Wuerffel in last year's contest as the eventual Heisman Trophy winner took a beating while throwing for 300-plus yards in a Gator victory. With a lack of all-star candidates at linebacker, Arkansas may use a 4-3 alignment to take advantage of the depth on the line.

Steady performers C.J. McLain and Justin Brown, both juniors, return at outside linebacker. Last year McLain forced two fumbles, recovered two fumbles, broke up five passes and made eight tackles for losses. Junior DeAnthony Hall is being shifted from strong safety to outside linebacker.

**16** The number of returning starters for Arkansas this fall. That's the most since 1988, when 17 returning starters helped the Razorbacks to a 10–2 record and an SWC title.

The secondary returns its top six performers. At times last year many questioned whether the Hogs had SEC-caliber cornerbacks, but starters Marcus Campbell and Zac Painter compete with intensity. Campbell, a senior, had 11 pass breakups and five of the team's 11 interceptions. Painter had seven deflections but seemed overmatched physically against many passing teams.

Sophomores Kenoy Kennedy and Jeromy Flowers closed the season as the starting safeties, finishing as the team's seventh- and 10th-leading tacklers respectively.

Even though senior punter Matt Wait and junior placekicker Todd Latourette are back, the Hogs spent a third of their spring practice working to improve that area.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | **2 Anthony Eubanks (Sr., 3)**; 81 Emanuel Smith (So., 1) |
| LT | 67 Michael Henry (Jr., 2); 79 Marcus Clavelle (Fr., 0) |
| LG | **80 Russ Brown (Jr., 2)**; 67 Michael Henry (Jr., 2) |
| C | **54 Grant Garrett (Jr., 2)**; 68 Jeremiah Washburn (So., 1) |
| RG | **77 Brandon Burlsworth (Jr., 2)**; 72 Chad Abernathy (Jr., 2) |
| RT | 69 Bobby Williams (So., 1); 79 Marcus Clavelle (Fr., 0) |
| TE | **83 Mark Baker (Sr., 3)**; 89 Al Heringer (Jr., 2) |
| QB | **8 Pete Burks (Jr., 2)**; 14 Clint Stoerner (So., 1) |
| FB | 47 Nathan Norman (So., 1); 33 Alex Harris (Sr., 2) |
| TB | **34 Madre Hill (Jr., 2)**; 22 Chrys Chukwuma (So., 1) |
| FL | 80 Anthony Lucas (So., 1); 27 Michael Snowden (So., 1) |
| K | **10 Todd Latourette (Jr., 2)** |

### DEFENSE (9)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | **87 Ken Anderson (Sr., 3)**; 99 D.J. Cooper (So., 1) |
| NG | **41 Melvin Bradley (Jr., 1)**; 91 Geno Bell (Sr., 3) |
| DE | **96 Ryan Hale (Jr., 2)**; 95 David Sanders (Sr., 3) |
| DT | 91 Geno Bell (Sr., 3); 1 Randy Garner (Jr., 2) |
| LB | 45 Jamel Harris (So., 1); 40 Norman Nero (Jr., 2) |
| LB | **93 Justin Brown (Jr., 2)**; 49 J.J. Jones (So., 1) |
| LB | **43 C.J. McLain (Jr., 1)**; 16 DeAnthony Hall (Jr., 2) |
| CB | **4 Marcus Campbell (Sr., 3)**; 18 David Barrett (So., 1) |
| CB | **37 Zac Painter (Jr., 2)**; 25 Chris Chalmers (So., 1) |
| SS | **30 Jeromy Flowers (So., 1)**; 13 Courtney Phillips (Fr., 0) |
| FS | **29 Kenoy Kennedy (So., 1)**; Ryan Jackson (Fr., 0) |
| P | **11 Matt Wait (Sr., 3)** |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

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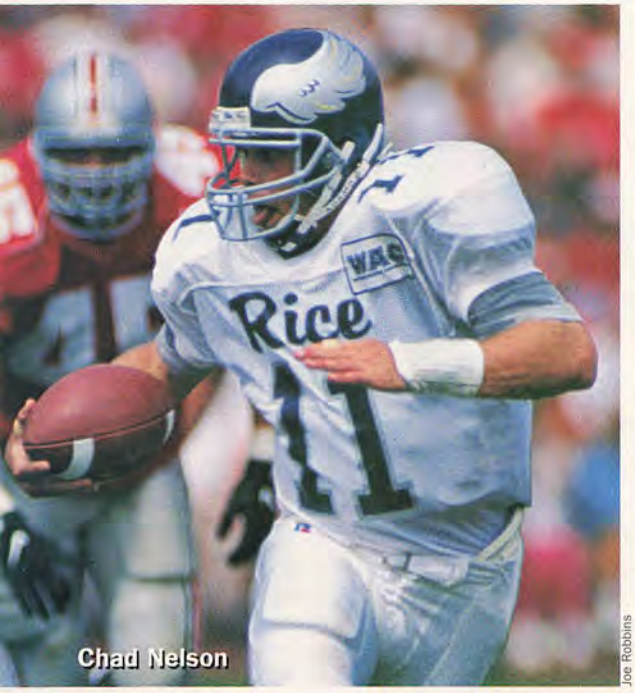
# Rice Owls

Head Coach .....Ken Hatfield
1996 Record (WAC) .....7–4 (6–2)
1997 Prediction .....2nd WAC Mountain
Home Field.....Rice Stadium (70,000)

In October and November, Rice fielded the WAC's second-hottest offense. In their last seven games of 1996, the Owls scored 38, 35, 48, 51, 0, 30 and 42 points.

Now, about that zero.

Brigham Young's 49–0 blitzing of the Owls decided the WAC Mountain Division championship but hardly wrecked Rice's outlook after a 7–4 season.



Chad Nelson

Joe Robbins

"That was a great BYU team," Rice offensive coordinator David Lee said months later. "They were ready to play us; they were primed."

The Cougars' success in dealing with Rice's spread-option scheme made the videotape of that game popular viewing material for defensive coordinators at other WAC schools during the winter. While the Owls will be eager for the rematch with BYU in Houston this October, they will not catch anybody by surprise this season.

In fact, Ken Hatfield, in his third year as head coach at Rice, says, "We've become competitive for the championship."

Senior Chad Nelson, who led the Owls with 801 rushing yards and 11 touchdowns, directs the offense. Lee ranks Nelson in a class with any running quarterback in the country, thanks partly to 4.4 speed. Nelson missed spring drills due to a hamstring injury.

Jeremy Bates, a transfer from Tennessee, was impressive in the spring and will be the backup.

Passing is another story. The Owls lack Air Force's ability to mix in the pass with much success. They threw for only 516 yards, including completions of 69 and 62 yards. Nelson's few passes (61) produced just 257 yards. Even while rushing for 305 yards a game, Rice was only 12th in the conference in total offense.

The Owls, who employ a fullback and two slotbacks, are loaded in the backfield. Junior Michael Perry gives Rice "some serious speed," says Lee, at A back and gained 656 yards.

Clemson transfer Benji Wood is the fullback, where everything starts. Wood becomes especially effective when teams start keying on the outside option. Look also for senior Rodd Newhouse.

Rice has several capable H backs, with Anthony Griffin and junior Kelione Gordon among the prime candidates.

Wide receiver is a one-man position in this offense. Blocking is the primary responsibility. The starter is junior Jason Blackwell, whose blocking efforts were rewarded with a 69-yard reception against Texas Christian.

Senior Mike Jones started every game at tight end and never caught a pass.

Hatfield began the Air Force tradition of short linemen with good mobility, and Rice has a bunch of them. The starters' average height is 6–2 but all can move.

The leader is junior right guard Charles Torello, labeled "a real physical, nasty player" by Lee. Sophomore Rod Beavan and senior Mark Spinner return at tackle. Like Beavan, guard Neal Gray started as a freshman last season. Junior Mike Vietor, the initial starter at guard in '96, is at center.

Returning at the one defensive end is senior Andy Clifton, "the real leader of the defense," defensive coordinator Hardee McCrary says. Replacing Ndukwe Kalu will be juniors Julian Duncan and Terrence Melton.

Judd Smith became the starting nose guard as a true freshman in October. Junior Andrew Hughes gets the first shot at tackle.

Rice leads the WAC in imaginative names for the linebacking positions, with the stud and the wrecker inside and the bandit outside.

Junior Thomas Benford brings outstanding speed to the wrecker spot, with 10 tackles for losses. Junior stud linebacker Rashad Reynolds uses his strength as effectively as Benford uses quickness. Sophomore Larry Ruffin will likely be the bandit.

**119** After rushing for 496 yards the previous week against Utah last November, Rice managed only 119 yards on the ground at BYU in a 49–0 loss. "Unbelievable," said BYU coach LaVell Edwards.

The star of Rice's secondary is junior cornerback LaDouphyous McCalla. Senior Bo Valles and redshirt freshman Adrian Sadler need to step forward with authority at the other corner.

Right-side safety Karlon Bedford made an impact as a freshman starter, while junior Brent Huffman or redshirt freshman Travis Ortega could surface at left safety.

Junior Victor Young and sophomore Scott Grimes will try to replace Tucker Phillips, who averaged 45.9 yards per punt.

Grimes is an excellent kickoff man and will also compete for the field-goal job. The Owls made only five of 14 field goals.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

SE **80 Jason Blackwall (Jr., 2)**; 17 Drew Cooper (Fr., 0)
LT **66 Rod Beavan (So., 1)**; 64 Chase Allen (Sr., 2)
LG **60 Neal Gray (So., 1)**; 69 Alex Morris (Sr., 2)
C 52 Mike Vietor (Jr., 2); 67 Matt Baldwin (So., 1)
RG **62 Charles Torello (Jr., 2)**; 77 Joe Davis (Fr., 0)
RT **71 Mark Spinner (Sr., 3)**; 76 Shan Jackson (Jr., 2)
TE **88 Mike Jones (Sr., 3)**; 84 Byron Godfrey (Sr., 3)
QB **11 Chad Nelson (Sr., 3)**: 4 Jeremy Bates (So., 0)
RB **8 Michael Perry (Jr., 2)**; 2 Anthony Griffin (Fr., 0)
FB **32 Benji Wood (Sr., 1)**; 25 Rodd Newhouse (Sr., 3)
RB 23 Keilone Gordon Jr., 2); 20 Mike Gingrich (Jr., 2)
K 10 Scott Grimes (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (6)

DE 87 Terrence Melton (Jr., 2); 74 Julian Duncan (Jr, 2)
DT 97 Andrew Hughes (Jr., 2); 95 Mark Lee (Fr., 0)
NG **96 Judd Smith (So., 1)**; 94 Jeff Odom (Fr., 0)
DE **82 Andy Clifton (Sr., 3)**; 53 Michael Lecclier (Fr., 0)
LB **44 Rashad Reynolds (Jr., 2)**; 35 Wesley Kubesch (So., 1)
LB **33 Thomas Benford (Jr., 2)**; 45 Blair Brown (Jr., 1)
LB 46 Larry Ruffin (So., 1); 18 Clint Leschber (So., 1)
CB **22 LaDouphyous McCalla (Jr., 2)**; 19 David Grenardo (Jr., 2)
CB 28 Bo Valles (Sr., 3); 27 Adrian Sadler (Fr., 0)
SS **7 Karlon Bedford (So., 1)**; 10 Kevin Brabham (Sr., 2)
FS 34 Brent Huffman (Jr., 2); 3 Travis Ortega (Fr., 0)
P 10 Scott Grimes (So., 1); 41 Victor Young (Jr., 0)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

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# Utah Utes

Head Coach .....Ron McBride
1996 Record (WAC) .....8–4 (6–2)
1997 Prediction .....3rd WAC Mountain
Home Field.....Rice Stadium (32,500)

Run over in three of the last four games, the Utes discovered the need for defensive help, especially linemen and linebackers.

"We got exposed," admits defensive coordinator Kyle Whittingham. "Boy, did we get exposed."

The Utes figure position changes, recovery from injuries, activating redshirt players and the arrival of junior-college recruits in the fall will make for a stronger presence up front in 1997.

Chris Fuamatu-Ma'afala

University of Utah

Since Mike Fouts has graduated, the quarterback job will probably fall to junior college transfer Jonathan Crosswhite. He is a dropback passer with a strong arm and the ability to move around in the pocket. Redshirt freshman Darnell Arceneaux is also familiar with the system. The quarterbacks' styles vary enough that the Utes could use both of them.

Running back Chris Fuamatu-Ma'afala weighs in at 276 pounds and runs 40 yards in 4.6 seconds, making him more than a handful for defenses. Fuamatu-Ma'afala gained 982 yards in eight games in a sophomore season interrupted by injury. He has 2,000-yard capability if he stays healthy.

Senior Juan Johnson was the featured back when his big teammate was missing, with 197 yards and three touchdowns against Tulsa. Junior Omar Bacon reluctantly gave up his redshirt status when Fuamatu-Ma'afala was hurt and showed enough to warrant more playing time.

The Utes use lots of receivers, and Kevin Dyson shows only 53 receptions last year, but he's fast (4.31) and deceptively strong. Other receivers include sophomores Donny Utu and Boo Bendinger, and junior Daniel Jones. They often use three- or four-receiver sets so depth is important.

With the focus on the wide receivers, the tight end mostly blocks for Utah. Seniors Chris Jahries and C.J. Johnson were derailed by injuries, giving junior Dirk Christoffersen a chance to develop.

The Utes finished eighth in the WAC in total offense, but only in this league is a 395-yard average mediocre.

Ute linemen allowed only 10 sacks among 313 passing plays. Junior left tackle Nathan Sybrowsky is back with improved strength and quickness. Right guard Danny Davis, the line's only senior, is also the strongest player. Junior Darren Walker moves from guard to center, leaving junior-college transfer Luis Park to compete with juniors Hema Katoa and Todd Jackson at left guard. At right tackle is junior Jay Link.

The Ute led the WAC in pass defense, allowing only a 50-percent completion rate and 154.6 yards a game, but against the run Whittingham says "we got pushed around." The two inside players will determine the line's effectiveness.

Junior nose guard Pene Talamaivao, back from an injury, will shore up the middle. Sophomore tackle Richard Seals moves in from tight end. Seals will break every Utah weight-lifting record before he leaves, and the Utes need that kind of impact from him on the field. The ends are sophomore John Frank and senior Ryan Akina.

Linebackers look like Utah's biggest area of improvement. Junior Robert Love, the team's leading tackler, is moving to strong safety, while senior David Cunningham returns after an injury caused him to miss last season. Cyrus Satoafaiga will arrive from junior college in August.

Senior Chris Godfrey will be challenged by junior-college arrival Dickie Purcell along with senior Jason Hooks, the former starter at middle linebacker. In the middle, sophomore Taulia Lave is first in line, while Washington State transfer Phil Glover is the really intriguing addition.

Although the secondary lost free safety Harold Lusk and his 19 career interceptions, Brandon Dart will move from strong safety to make room for Love. They're fast, physical players.

**376** BYU, pass-happy for the last 25 years, suddenly rushed for 376 yards in a 37–17 victory over Utah, making the Utes' weakness — and defensive emphasis for 1997 — perfectly clear.

The cornerbacks maybe the WAC Mountain Division's best pair. Seniors Clarence Lawson and Calbert Beck, who missed most of last season with injuries, are excellent in man-to-man coverage. Junior David Richards, who filled in for Beck, is reliable but less talented.

Sophomore Chris Hunter should improve on his 39.6-yard punting average. The Utes are banking on sophomore Tommy Truhe as the new placekicker.

While Dyson and Lawson are fine on kick returns, the coaches are eager to watch redshirt freshman Nin Burns.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

| | |
|---|---|
| WR | **1 Kevin Dyson (Sr., 3)**; 81 Matt Fankhauser (Sr., 0) |
| LT | **72 Nathan Sybrowsky (Jr., 2)**; 74 Devin Grant (Jr., 0) |
| LG | 69 Todd Jackson (Jr., 2); 73 Hema Katoa (Jr., 0) |
| C | **55 Darren Walker (Jr., 2)**; 63 Luis Park (Jr., 0) |
| RG | **70 Danny Davis (Sr., 3)**; 50 Sam White (Fr., 0) |
| RT | 78 Jay Link (Jr., 1); 61 Kevin Wilson (Fr., 0) |
| TE | **82 Chris Jahries (Sr., 3)**; 88 Dirk Christoffersen (Jr., 1) |
| QB | 16 Jonathan Crosswhite (Jr., 0); 14 Darnell Arceneaux (Fr., 0) |
| RB | **6 Chris Fuamatu-Ma'afala (Jr., 2)**; 40 Tai Lepule (Sr., 2) |
| RB | **2 Juan Johnson (Sr., 3)**; 24 Omar Bacon (Jr., 2) |
| WR | 25 Donny Utu (So., 1); 80 Daniel Jones (Jr., 0) |
| K | 22 Tommy Truhe (So., 0); 11 Matt Comins (Fr., 0) |

### DEFENSE (6)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | 77 Ryan Akina (Sr., 0); 98 Toni Fatafehi (Jr., 0) |
| DT | 91 Pene Talamaivao (Jr., 1); 94 Fisi Moleni (So., 1) |
| DT | **44 Richard Seals (So., 1)**; 97 Rhett Tatton (So., 1) |
| DE | 93 John Frank (So., 1); 90 Ben Bowers (So., 0) |
| LB | 8 David Cunningham (Sr., 2); 19 Howard Christianson (Fr., 0) |
| LB | 85 Taulia Lave (So., 1); 7 Phil Glover (Jr., 0) |
| LB | **46 Chris Godfrey (Sr., 3)**; 52 Everestt Matagi (So., 1) |
| CB | 5 Calbert Beck (Sr., 3); **34 David Richards (Jr., 1)** |
| CB | **20 Clarence Lawson (Sr., 3)**; 27 Marc Merritt (Jr., 2) |
| SS | **35 Robert Love (Jr., 2)**; 24 Keith Harrison (Sr., 2) |
| FS | **42 Brandon Dart (Jr., 1)**; 3 Jimmy Nolan (Sr., 1) |
| P | **86 Chris Hunter (So., 1)**; 11 Matt Comins (Fr., 0) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* **BOLD** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Arizona Wildcats

Head Coach .....Dick Tomey
1996 Record (Pac-10)....5–6 (3–5)
1997 Prediction .....7th Pac-10
Home Field.....Arizona Stadium (57,803)

Arizona was building and making the kinds of mistakes young teams make but getting better every week. The Wildcats had visions of bowl games until they ran into California.

"We were a good defensive team until then," coach Dick Tomey says. "We had played four years and seven games of good defense."

Keith Smith

Paul Jasienski

In the eighth game last season, Arizona gave up 56 points in a four-overtime loss in which California gained 503 passing yards and 659 yards of total offense. The Wildcats used to give up 659 yards of total offense in a bad month.

The next week, they gave up 310 rushing yards to Oregon. UCLA was effectively shut down, but Arizona State celebrated its Rose Bowl bid by ripping its neighbors with 651 yards, 450 on the ground, as Tomey appealed to the Wildcats' pride. He cajoled. Nothing worked.

And now the slate is clean. And again, Arizona bulks up on defense while taking on a new look on offense that has everybody in Tucson excited.

Sophomore quarterback Keith Smith personifies this new look, claiming ro be 5–11, 202, both of which are exaggerations.

He is smaller, shorter and quicker than any other quarterback in the Pacific-10 Conference — perhaps in the country.

Against Cal, Smith turned in an NCAA freshman record of 502 yards total offense. He's back as the Wildcats' top returning rusher with 546 yards, which is more impressive when you remember that the 223 yards he lost in sacks was subtracted to make that total. He ran for 143 yards in only nine carries against Illinois. One of those carries was for a 73-yard touchdown.

Smith threw to 14 different receivers, nine of them for touchdowns.

Leon Callen returns as a sophomore running back with late-season experience, 10.5-second speed in the 100 meters and 21.3 in the 200. He's extremely fast turning the corner. Callen will be complemented by junior Scooter Sprotte and senior Kevin Schmidtke, a veteran who came on strong as a freshman and has since settled in to a steady career.

The fullback is senior Charles Myles, with junior Kelvin Eafon pushing him.

Senior wide receivers Rodney Williams and Jeremy McDaniel provide experience and stability in an offense that emphasizes their skills and Smith's arm.

Williams is a quick, tough receiver who also plays on special teams. McDaniel set a school single-game record a year ago with 14 catches for 283 yards against Cal.

Junior Mike Lucky, a 270-pound tight end, is a devastating blocker who also caught 14 passes, two for touchdowns.

Senior Rusty James is the center, though most of his experience has come at guard. He's flanked by Yusuf Scott, a 326-pounder who is only a sophomore, and Tevete Usu, a senior who was redshirted last season.

Senior Jose Portilla returns at right tackle, with James' high school teammate, senior Ryan Turley, at left tackle.

When the rule was passed to allow a fourth year of competition for any athlete who entered school under Prop. 48 and graduated in four years, Tomey immediately got his best defensive lineman, tackle Joe Salave'a, back for another year. Salave'a, who passed on the NFL draft, is the Wildcats' defensive key and lines up alongside junior Daniel Greer.

Linebacker Chester Burnett returns for his senior year on the inside, and only his height (he's 5–11, maybe) keeps him from being near the top of the NFL scouts' shopping lists. He finished second in the Pac-10 last season with 124 tackles, 20 of those against Washington and 13 against Washington State.

Senior Jimmy Sprotte, Scooter's brother, is another returning starter at linebacker, where Dolphin Tillman, a redshirt freshman, and sophomore Marcus Bell will definitely get some playing time.

**1,760/450**

Arizona gave up 1,760 rushing yards in 1996, dropping from their accustomed first in the league to sixth. Worse, the 450 yards Arizona State piled up on the ground was the sixth highest single-game total against the Wildcats since they began playing football in 1899.

Senior strong safety Rashee Johnson was a starter in '95 and a redshirt in '96 because of academic problems. At free safety will be David Fipp, a senior, or junior Mikal Smith. The cornerbacks are junior Chris McAlister (six interceptions, most in the Pac-10) and senior Kelly Malveaux.

Senior Tim Ferlan and sophomore Mark McDonald will battle for the placekicker job. Ryan Springston, a junior-college transfer, is the punter.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| WR | 3 | **Rodney Williams (Sr., 2)**; 8 Dennis Northcutt (So., 1) |
| LT | 76 | **Ryan Turley (Sr., 1)**; 71 Marques McFadden (Fr., 0) |
| LG | 79 | Edwin Mulitalo (Jr., 0); **55 Tevete Usu (Sr., 1)** |
| C | 60 | Rusty James (Sr., 1); 78 Mike Mannelly (Jr., 0) |
| RG | 72 | Yusuf Scott (So., 1); 70 Bruce Wiggins (Fr., 0) |
| RT | 77 | **Jose Portilla (Sr., 1)**; 75 Jason Kopydlowski (Fr., 0) |
| TE | 88 | **Mike Lucky (Jr., 2)**; 82 Robert Bonillas (So., 1) |
| QB | 12 | **Keith Smith (So., 1)**; 10 Brady Batten (Sr., 3) |
| RB | 9 | **Charles Myles (Sr., 3)**; 38 Kelvin Eafon (Jr., 1) |
| RB | 27 | Leon Callen (So., 1); 38 Kevin Schmidtke (Sr., 3) |
| WR | 15 | **Jeremy McDaniel (Sr., 1)**; 85 Brad Brennan (So., 1) |
| K | 54 | T.J. Rodriguez (Sr., 0); 43 Tim Ferlan (Sr., 0) |

### DEFENSE (10)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | 44 | **Mike Szlauko (Sr., 3)**; 87 Idris Haroon (Fr., 0) |
| DT | 48 | **Daniel Greer (Jr., 2)**; 98 Chima Ugwu (Jr., 1) |
| DT | 56 | **Joe Salave'a (Sr., 3)**; 98 Chima Ugwu (Jr., 1) |
| DE | 93 | Steve Tafua (Jr., 0); 99 Joe Tafoya (Fr., 0) |
| LB | 42 | **Jimmy Sprotte (Sr., 3)**; 45 Bradford Glover (Fr., 0) |
| LB | 40 | Marcus Bell (So., 1); 31 DaShon Polk (So., 1) |
| LB | 35 | **Chester Burnett (Sr., 3)**; 46 Stadford Glover (So., 0) |
| CB | 21 | **Kelly Malveaux (Sr., 3)**; 5 Kelvin Hunter (So., 1) |
| CB | 11 | **Chris McAlister (Jr., 1)**; 26 Skeeter Harrington (Sr., 3) |
| SS | 2 | **Rashee Johnson (Sr., 1)**; 22 Leland Gayles (So., 1) |
| FS | 23 | **David Fipp (Sr., 2); 4 Mikal Smith (Jr., 2)** |
| P | 17 | Ryan Springston (Jr., 0) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# San Diego State Aztecs

**Head Coach** .....Ted Tollner
**1996 Record (WAC)** .....8–3 (6–2)
**1997 Prediction** .....2nd WAC Pacific
**Home Field**.....Jack Murphy Stadium (60,409)

Only two bowl game invitations have been handed out to the Western Athletic Conference the past two seasons and in each San Diego State has fallen one game short.

The Aztecs have won eight games each season and what do they have to show for it? Nothing. An eight-win season in any of the other major conferences, save Conference USA, will almost certainly guarantee a bid.

Az Hakim

Peter Brouillet

"It's part of history," says San Diego State coach Ted Tollner, who received an unprecedented 10-year contract after the season. "We're frustrated that we didn't achieve our goals. But we don't have the same deck to deal with as other conferences. We don't have a margin for error."

If a few key players emerge, especially at quarterback, and San Diego State weathers a brutal September at Washington, Wisconsin and Air Force, and at Arizona on Oct. 4, then they could contend for the WAC's Pacific Division title.

The experience is in place on offense, except at quarterback. Gone is Billy Blanton, a 3,200-yards-plus passer, leaving the job to senior Kevin McKechnie.

McKechnie still is unproven, having completed only 16 passes in three years. But he has quick feet, a strong arm and the hunger to finally get his chance.

San Diego State finished close to the 2,000-yard mark on the ground, but will have to get along now without All-WAC running back George Jones.

Senior Justin Watson, who averaged a team-high 6.8 yards per carry in nine games, will be given the lion's share of carries. He is a 225-pound power back with breakaway speed and a knack for getting to the hole fast. Look for elusive sophomore Marty Graham, a standout as a true freshman a year ago, to make an impact.

With All-American Blackwell now playing on Sundays, the focus shifts to senior Az-zahir Hakim, a deep threat who averaged 17.6 yards on 36 catches a year ago. He could be one of the nation's best. He'll need junior Jesus Reyes and senior Taj Johnson to take away some attention.

Seniors Chad Flick and Mike Hatch and junior Ben Mecham are all sure-handed possession receivers ready to answer the call at tight end.

All five starters return along the offensive line, and four of them — tackles Kyle Turley and Ephraim Salaam, center Dan Nilsen and guard Robert Whitman — are seniors who have been together for three years. Cohesiveness will not be lacking. The fifth regular, sophomore guard Mike Malano, joined the group as a freshman last season and fit right in.

Defensive inconsistency was characteristic of San Diego State's season, but five regulars return to a line that held its own against the run. The Aztecs will need end Charles Gatlin and tackle Nio Santos, both seniors, to continue to plug the holes, with senior tackles Dan Dorsey and Cameron Chance adding to the swarm.

A pass rusher must emerge from the pack to fill the shoes of All-WAC defensive end Adrian Ioja, who finished second in the conference in sacks. Sophomores Kabeer Gbaja-Biamila, who started six games as a freshman, and Antwone Young are battling for the flank opposite Gatlin.

The linebacking corps will be fine if the Aztecs can get the necessary push from Reggie Davis and Ty Wade, two of the nation's top junior-college linebackers in '96.

Depth is in place, thanks in part to a slew of injuries last season, but none of the replacements stood out enough for Tollner to count on them too heavily. Seniors Andy Osborne and Scott Johnson, and juniors Joe Tuipala and Joe Jackson all took turns starting, but all could be pushed aside if Davis and Wade live up to expectations.

**16** The number of wins compiled by the San Diego State football team over the last two years. That's more than any other Division I-A program in California, and without the benefit, or reward, of a bowl appearance.

Tollner is hoping for more quickness and toughness in the secondary. Interceptions dropped from an NCAA-leading 26 in 1995 to 12 last season. But that is at least partly due to the pass rush, or lack thereof.

Senior safeties Julius McChristian and Jason Moore, and junior cornerback Eric Lewis all return as starters, while sophomore Rico Curtis came on strong last season.

The Aztecs have to replace placekicker Peter Holt, a Lou Groza Award finalist, and All-America punter Noel Prefontaine. Their hope will be that either junior Don Copeland or redshirt freshman Gary Sechler can be counted on for punting duties. Redshirt freshman Nate Tandberg appears to be the leading kicker.

Hakim will return kickoffs while Lewis will handle punts.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

| | |
|---|---|
| WR | 3 Az Hakim (Sr., 3); 1 LeAndrew Childs (Jr., 2) |
| LT | **66 Ephraim Salaam (Sr., 3)**; 65 Greg Spillane (So., 0) |
| LG | **70 Robert Whitman (Sr., 3)**; 67 Rick Austin (So., 0) |
| C | **73 Dan Nilsen (Sr., 3)**; 55 Bill Van Raaphorst (Jr., 0) |
| RG | **53 Mike Malano (So., 1)**; 76 Andrew Kline (So., 0) |
| RT | **68 Kyle Turley (Sr., 3)**; 61 Hasira Sutton (So., 1) |
| TE | 88 Chad Flick (Sr., 3); 87 Mike Hatch (Sr., 2) |
| QB | 7 Kevin McKechnie (Sr., 1); 14 Mike Smith (Sr., 0) |
| HB | 11 Jesus Reyes (Jr., 1); 6 Tyrone Evans (Jr., 1) |
| RB | 30 Justin Watson (Sr., 3); 21 Marty Graham (So., 1) |
| WR | 80 Taj Johnson (Sr., 2); Deric Martin (Fr., 0) |
| K | Nate Tandberg (Fr., 0) |

### DEFENSE (6)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | 40 Charles Gatlin (Sr., 3); 94 Antwone Young (So., 1) |
| DT | 98 Atonio Santos (Sr., 3); 71 Darryl Jones (Jr., 0) |
| DT | **51 Dan Dorsey (Sr., 3)**; Tony Matautia (Jr., 0) |
| DE | **93 K. Gbaja-Biamila (So., 1)**; 94 Antwone Young (So., 1) |
| LB | **48 Joe Tuipala (Jr., 2)**; Reggie Davis (Jr., 0) |
| LB | 60 Andy Osborne (Sr., 2); 35 Joe Jackson (Jr., 2) |
| LB | 56 Scott Johnson (Sr., 2); Ty Wade (Jr., 0) |
| CB | **29 Eric Lewis (Jr., 2)**; 26 James Stewart (Jr., 1) |
| CB | 17 James Heggins (Sr., 2); 15 Lonny Bergeron (So., 0) |
| SS | **4 Julius McChristian (Sr., 3)**; 37 Rico Curtis (So., 1) |
| FS | **24 Jason Moore (Sr., 3)**; 37 Rico Curtis (So., 1) |
| P | 85 Dan Copeland (Jr., 0); 12 Gary Sechler (Fr., 0) |

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

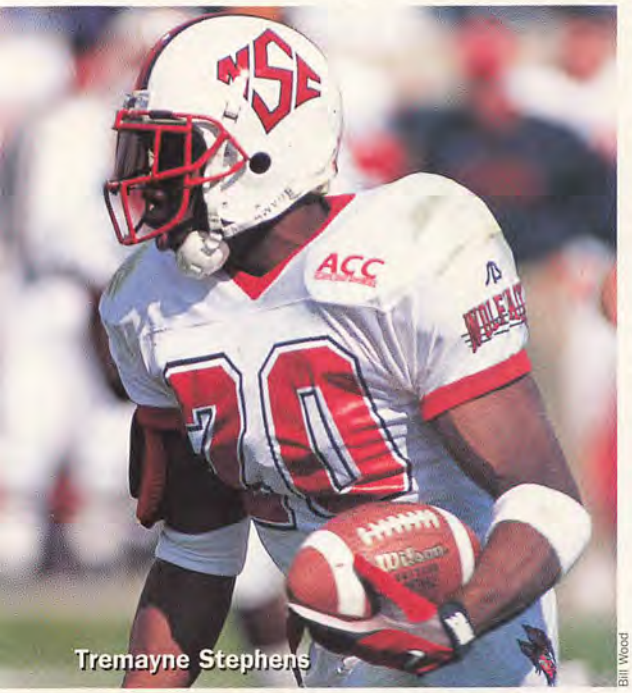
# North Carolina State Wolfpack

**Head Coach** ..... **Mike O'Cain**
**1996 Record (ACC)**..... **3–8 (2–6)**
**1997 Prediction** ..... **6th ACC**
**Home Field**..... **Carter-Finley Stadium (59,000)**

Things are looking brighter for a North Carolina State team that had a most uncommon (3–8) season in 1996. For openers, the Wolfpack won't start out as it did last year with five missing key defensive players. There's another plus.

"We'll have a lot more experience," says defensive coordinator Jeff Snipes.

Even so, the starting quarterback position is undecided. Sophomore Jamie Barnette, who won the job in the second game against Alabama, finished fourth in ACC individual total offense. Last year he accounted for 13 touchdowns, nine by air and four by land. He faces tough competition from talented redshirt freshmen Grant Dorn and Charles Berry. Former starter Jose Laureano has dropped out of school.


Tremayne Stephens

Bill Wood

Senior tailback Tremayne Stephens and senior fullback Carlos King are dynamic runners. Stephens, sixth on the all-time Wolfpack rushing list, ran for 771 yards and had four 100-yard games. He's compiled 12 career 100-yard games. King, who runs, blocks and catches passes, moves up after understudying three-year regular Rod Brown. Junior Jeff Butler and sophomore Kevin Hubbard provide quality depth behind King.

The coaching staff expects big things from sophomore tailback Rahshon Spikes, who, with senior split end Alvis Whitted, gives State one of college football's most explosive kick-return duos.

The Pack should be more than adequate at receiver with the return of Whitted, junior Torry Holt (24 receptions) and sophomore Chris Coleman.

Senior Mark Thomas, 6–5, 245, is one of the ACC's premier tight ends. Twelve of his 18 catches were for first downs, including three in third-down situations. Juniors Michael Foushee and Devon Smith, both 6–5, give the Pack pro size at the position.

Four of the five '96 offensive line starters are back. Team awards named senior guard Lonnie Gilbert "most valuable offensive lineman," senior center Seamus Murphy "best blocker" and tight end Thomas "most improved." Gilbert's value was confirmed by his election to the All-ACC second team.

Tackle Ian Rafferty and guard Alex Santos, both juniors, had their moments. Santos is being pushed by sophomore Ryan Knudtson and 320-pound redshirt freshman Alex Rice. The vacancy at right tackle, where Tom Dombalis camped out the last two years, is expected to be claimed by sophomore Todd Boyle.

More good news: The entire defensive unit lost only one starter, safety Kenny Harris. Senior tackle George Williams will again anchor the front four. He was the No. 4 tackler on the squad with 45 hits (seven behind the line) and three sacks, and in the Alabama game, he was the first N.C. State player since 1994 to block a field-goal attempt.

Senior Lateef Patterson is the returning starter at the other tackle position. Williams and Patterson will be flanked by Brad Collins, a senior, and Clayton Simon, a junior, returning full-time starters at end.

To solve the depth problem, coach Mike O'Cain recruited two blue-chip junior college prospects from Garden City (Kan.) Community College: Greg Derrick and Andre Wray. Both should help immediately.

For the second straight year, middle linebacker Morocco Brown led the Pack in tackles, becoming only the fourth State player to achieve that honor in back-to-back years. In addition to 108 tackles, the senior led the team in sacks (four) and in fumbles recovered (three). Senior outside linebacker Duan Everett, is the Pack's second-best tackler with 92. Kit Carpenter (41 tackles) makes it an all-senior linebacking group.

**61⅓** The average number of points scored in the last six N.C. State-Duke games. Totals in those games were 63, 72, 41, 47, 79 and 66. That adds up to 368 points.

Junior cornerback Hassan Shamsid-Deen, with 39 tackles and a team-leading four interceptions, leads a trio of returning starters that include junior Rodney Redd and senior free safety Damon Wyche. Seniors Mike Britt, Kevin Russell and Brandon Davis, and sophomore Eric Riddick are all seasoned performers in the secondary.

Leading candidates to replace college football's top field-goal kicker Marc Primantihim are senior Chris Hensler and incoming recruit Kent Passingham.

The Pack has the most dangerous Twin Terrors of Returns in Whitted and Spikes. Whitted's 174-yard kickoff-return performance against Florida State was the second-best ever for an N.C. State player. He returned one Seminole kickoff 96 yards for a touchdown.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

**SE** 80 Alvis Whitted (Sr., 3); 84 Chris Coleman (So., 1)
**LT** **60 Ian Rafferty (Jr., 2)**; 68 Jarvis Borum (Fr., 0)
**LG** **61 Alex Santos (Jr., 1)**; 69 Alex Rice (Fr., 0)
**C** **66 Seamus Murphy (Sr., 3)**; 52 Justin Burroughs (Jr., 2)
**RG** **65 Lonnie Gilbert (Sr., 3)**; 70 Ryan Knudtson (Fr., 0)
**RT** 55 Todd Boyle (So., 1); 77 John Fletcher (So., 0)
**TE** **24 Mark Thomas (Sr., 3)**; 87 Michael Foushee (Jr., 1)
**QB** **4 Jamie Barnette (So., 1)**; 14 Charles Berry (Fr., 0)
**FB** 39 Carlos King (Jr., 2); 30 Jeff Butler (Jr., 2)
**TB** **20 Tremayne Stephens (Sr., 3)**; 17 Rahshon Spikes (So., 1)
**FL** **81 Torry Holt (Jr., 2)**; 84 Chris Coleman (So., 1)
**K** 19 Chris Hensler (Sr., 2); 6 Scott Earwood (So., 0)

### DEFENSE (10)

**DE** **45 Clayton Simon (Jr., 2)**; 36 Bobbie Cotten (Jr., 2)
**DT** **98 Lateef Patterson (Sr., 2)**; 90 Jeff Fisher (So., 0)
**DT** **95 George Williams (Sr., 3)**; 97 Jeff Kuh (Fr., 0)
**DE** **93 Brad Collins (Sr., 3)**; 53 Clint Johnson (Fr., 0)
**OLB** **48 Morocco Brown (Sr., 3); 40 Kit Carpenter (Sr., 3)**
**ILB** 44 Tim Ramseur (So., 1); 57 Shelton Kee (So., 1)
**OLB** **16 Duan Everett (Sr., 2)**; 12 Kevin Turks (Jr., 2)
**CB** 27 Tony Scott (So., 1); 2 Lloyd Harrison (So., 1)
**CB** **7 Hassan Shamsid-Deen (Jr., 2)**; 21 Marcelle Hough (So., 1)
**SS** 33 Eric Riddick (So., 1); 15 Clayton White (Fr., 0)
**FS** **32 Damon Wyche (Sr., 3); 8 Rodney Redd (Jr., 2)**
**P** **11 Jason Biggs (Sr., 1)**; 6 Scott Earwood (So., 0)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Vanderbilt Commodores

**Head Coach** ..... **Woody Widenhofer**
**1996 Record (SEC)** ..... **2–9 (0–8)**
**1997 Prediction** ..... **4th SEC East**
**Home Field** ..... **Vanderbilt Stadium (41,000)**

Woody Widenhofer knows a good offense when he sees one, it's just that his perspective has changed.

The new Vanderbilt football coach has spent his career as a defensive coach trying to stop every imaginable offensive alignment.

Now he's building an offense based on a smorgasbord of all the sets that ever caused him preparation headaches.

Jamie Duncan

Vanderbilt University

"I'm going to do all the things I've had trouble defending over the years," says Widenhofer, who served as Vanderbilt's defensive coordinator the past two seasons.

The one offense Widenhofer won't try is the pass-happy attack used by his predecessor, Rod Dowhower. There will be more balance running than throwing.

The quarterback will have flexibility when he throws, and the coach will bring back the option to take advantage of the mobility of his quarterbacks.

Senior Damian Allen was the No. 1 quarterback after spring practice. However, no position on offense is set, and sophomore Jamail Carter is a prime candidate to run the team if Allen can't get the job done. Carter's skills are better suited than Allen's to running the ball.

Sophomore Alvin Duke, part of a rotation with junior Jason Dunnavant and senior Marcus A. Williams last year, has earned the running back job. Duke is the quickest and most elusive runner on the squad. However, Widenhofer makes no secret that incoming freshman Jimmy Williams, a high school All-American, will get a shot at the position.

Widenhofer is especially high on senior Paul Morgan, who will be the starting fullback. He is a physical, north-south runner and an exceptional blocker.

Commodore fans love receiver Todd Yoder, who made several spectacular catches as a freshman. The 6–5 Yoder is a reliable target. He finished with 21 catches for 471 yards and three scores. Redshirt freshman Andre Woods will start opposite Yoder. Woods' speed is a welcome asset to the lineup.

At tight end, senior Marcus E. Williams is eager to take over. Junior O.J. Fleming also will see time at the position because of his blocking skills.

The offensive line, full of young players who paid their dues last season, shouldered much of the blame for the offensive woes. Allen was sacked as many as nine times in a single game and was pressured constantly. The line will be overmatched by most SEC defensive fronts.

Four starters return, but the only reason for optimism is junior right tackle Will Jacobs. He made the SEC All-Freshman team in 1994. Sophomore Jeff Barnett is expected to be a fine center. Junior Jim Anguiano, starter at center all of last season, has moved to guard. Michael Saltsman and Raminté Byndom were forced into early action as true freshmen and should benefit from the experience. Saltsman will start at guard and Byndom will back up at tackle. Junior Clay Condrey and redshirt freshman Darren Rothenberg will compete for the left tackle job.

Senior Jay Stallworth is the anchor of the defensive line. He is a steady run stopper and will be asked to provide a strong pass rush. Tackle Alphonso Harvey worked hard in the weight room during the off-season after not playing up to expectations his sophomore year and could step in ahead of scheduled junior starter Ian Smith. Senior Glenn Young will start at right end.

Nose tackle Ryan Aulds is a redshirt freshman who commanded some attention during the spring and could make an impact in the fall. Junior Jason Smith, a part-time starter last year, is currently listed ahead of Aulds.

**13** The number of touchdown passes Vanderbilt has thrown the last four seasons. There were none in 1993, two in '94, six in '95 and five last season.

With middle linebacker Jamie Duncan's decision to return for his senior season, Vanderbilt's defense will be as good as it was last year. Without him, the Commodores would have struggled. Duncan led the team with 151 tackles, posted five sacks and caused five fumbles. He was a Butkus Award candidate and All-SEC choice.

Senior Carlton Hall is eager to join Antony Jordon, also a senior and one of the best athletes on the team, as a starter at outside linebacker.

At the corners, both senior Corey Chavous and junior Fred Vinson are excellent cover men. Chavous led with three interceptions and is a dangerous kick returner. It shouldn't take long for sophomore Ainsley Battles to replace departed star Eric Vance at strong safety. Junior free safety Rahim Batten played well as a backup.

Replacing the nation's top punter, Bill Marinangel, is a priority. He averaged 46.6 yards. The job is wide open. Junior Brett Speakman converted 7-of-12 field goals.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

| | |
|---|---|
| WR | **81 Todd Yoder (So., 1)**; 16 Zach Winkler (So., 1) |
| LT | 76 Clay Condrey (Jr., 2); 77 Darren Rothenberg (Fr., 0) |
| LG | **78 Michael Saltsman (So., 1)**; 71 David Coppeans (Jr., 2) |
| C | 50 Jeff Barnett (So., 1); 54 Myron Murray (Jr., 1) |
| RG | **51 Jim Anguiano (Jr., 2)**; 79 Shawn Wilson (Jr., 2) |
| RT | **65 Will Jacobs (Jr., 2)**; **70 Raminté Byndom (So., 1)** |
| TE | 84 O.J. Fleming (Jr., 2); **82 Marcus E. Williams (Sr., 2)** |
| QB | **17 Damian Allen (Sr., 2)**; 11 Jamail Carter (So., 0) |
| HB | 41 Paul Morgan (Sr., 3); **42 Jason Dunnavant (Jr., 2)** |
| RB | 20 Alvin Duke (So., 1 ); 23 Tyrone Yarbrough (Sr., 0) |
| WR | 86 Andre Woods (Fr., 0); 7 Tavarus Hogans (So.,1 ) |
| K | **39 Brett Speakman (Jr., 1)**; 40 Don Gallardo (So., 1) |

### DEFENSE (6)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | 97 Glen Young (Sr., 1); **72 Jason Hill (Sr., 2)** |
| DT | 58 Ian Smith (Jr., 1); 92 Alphonso Harvey (Jr., 2) |
| NT | 93 Jason Smith (Jr., 2); 98 Ryan Aulds (Fr., 0) |
| DE | **89 Jay Stallworth (Sr., 3)**; 85 Russ Nicoli (Fr., 0) |
| LB | 34 Carlton Hall (Sr., 3); 6 Lamont Turner (So., 1) |
| LB | **49 Jamie Duncan (Sr., 2)**; 39 John Bradley (Jr., 2) |
| LB | **27 Antony Jordon (Sr., 3)**; 10 Darweshi Miles (Jr., 2) |
| CB | **40 Corey Chavous (Sr., 3)**; 30 Damien Charley (Jr., 2) |
| CB | **1 Fred Vinson (Jr., 2)**; 31 Domonick Koger (Jr., 1) |
| SS | 48 Ainsley Battles (So., 1); 40 Don Gallardo (So., 1) |
| FS | 8 Rahim Batten (Jr., 2); 14 Brooks Collins (Fr., 0) |
| P | 47 Scott Cohen (So., 0); 39 Brett Speakman (Jr., 1) |

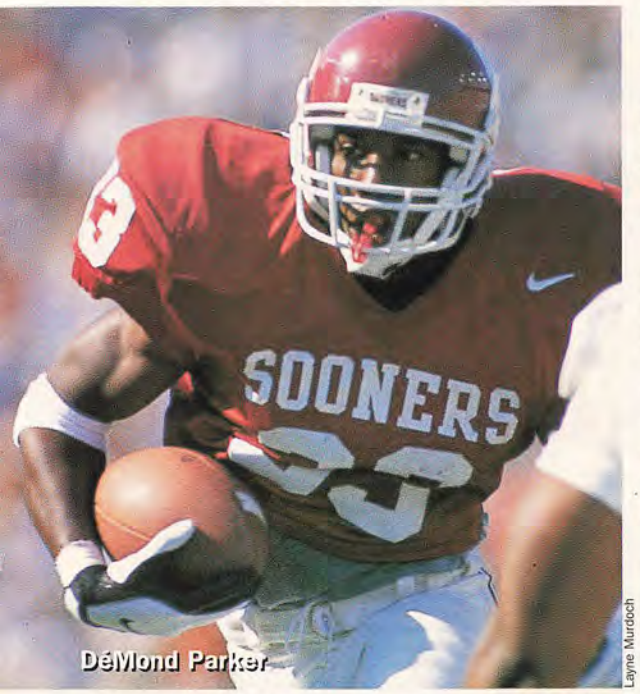
*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* **BOLD** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Oklahoma Sooners

**Head Coach .....John Blake**
**1996 Record (Big 12) ....3–8 (3–5)**
**1997 Prediction .....4th Big 12 South**
**Home Field.....Owen Field (75,004)**

The theme for John Blake's first season as head coach at Oklahoma was Bringing the Family Together. An alternative might have been Circling the Wagons.

There were detractors, and not just outside "the family." Quarterback Eric Moore was booed at Owen Field, which hasn't been sold out, incidentally, since 1988.



DéMond Parker

Layne Murdoch

"Half the fans around here hate us," running back DéMond Parker says. "The other half are die-hards and won't give up on us."

A 3–8 record, the worst since 1895, did little to placate either group. The record included four straight defeats at the start, three to WAC teams. But Blake remains optimistic. Detractors "had better enjoy this now because we will be back," he says. "The giant is waking up."

Blake won't identify a starting quarterback until fall. Sophomore Justin Fuente appeared to have settled in, taking over from Moore, a junior, and starting eight games. Fuente faltered late in the season, however, and Moore finished the way he began — as the starter.

Moore is a better runner and is better suited to offensive coordinator Dick Winder's system, which utilizes options and bootlegs. Fuente's strength is setting up and throwing.

Fuente completed 91-of-196 passes for 1,271 yards and eight touchdowns in his first collegiate season. He threw 10 interceptions, however.

Parker was one of the few bright spots, rushing for 1,184 yards and 10 touchdowns to rank fifth in the Big 12 and earn recognition as the conference Offensive Newcomer of the Year. Parker's stamina is a concern because he suffers from asthma.

Junior Bennie Butler could push Parker, as could junior-college transfer Johnnie Balous, an explosive runner who might be a better fit at fullback.

Senior tight end Stephen Alexander was the team's second-leading receiver despite missing four games because of shoulder surgery. Two years ago, Alexander was All-Big Eight after leading the Sooners with 43 catches and 580 yards.

The Sooners need to find a consistent deep threat at wide receiver. Sophomore Jarrail Jackson is the most likely to succeed. He endeared himself to Sooner fans by leading the comeback against Texas. Jackson caught a touchdown pass early in the game and later returned a punt 51 yards for another score, which proved to be the turning point.

The young offensive linemen did not develop the way Blake had hoped. Sooner quarterbacks were sacked 23 times for 116 yards in losses.

The most experienced offensive linemen are seniors Bruce McClure, Derrick Nelson, Barry Giles, Sammy Williams and junior Jay Smith. McClure, Nelson, Williams and Smith were starters at season's end. Guard Jon Mulac, a senior, earned a starting spot in the spring.

The Sooners struggled to mount a pass rush, which helps to explain why they ranked 102nd in the nation in passing defense.

Senior Martin Chase was shuffled between end and tackle and started 10 games. Junior Kelly Gregg, who started seven games at tackle, has great balance.

Freshmen Corey Callens and Rocky Bright will get a good look in fall camp. Blake called the 6–3, 258-pound Callens of Jenks, Okla., the "best pure pass rusher" in the country at the high school level.

Senior Travian Smith was moved to defensive end in an attempt to bolster the pass rush and responded by leading the team in sacks with six, among 83 total tackles. Smith, who has returned to strong-side linebacker, is the defensive playmaker.

Junior Terrance Malone was moved from outside linebacker to the middle in the spring. Junior Dale Allen and sophomore Chris Justice are among those who also could be in the mix by the opener.

**8** The number of Sooner losses last season, the most in school history and dramatic evidence of a proud, tradition-rich program fallen on hard times.

The entire secondary needs shoring up after allowing 24 TD passes and 2,330 passing yards.

Junior free safety Gana Joseph set a school record for tackles by a defensive back with 105. That number speaks volumes of the porous defense.

First-year players will get a lot of chances in fall practice.

"I don't recruit players to redshirt them," Blake says.

Backup tight end Jason Freeman earned the punting job in the spring. He hasn't punted in a game since high school. Senior Jeremy Alexander was only 10-of-21 on field-goal attempts.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

**SE** 3 Jarrail Jackson (So., 1); 24 Chris Blocker (Jr., 2)
**LT** **71 Jay Smith (Jr., 1)**; 79 Tim Conley (Jr., 0)
**LG** 64 Jon Mulac (Sr., 1); 62 Ricky Clark (So., 1)
**C** **73 Bruce McClure (Sr., 3)**; 77 Tim Macias (Jr., 1)
**RG** 67 Derrick Nelson (Sr., 1); 54 Greg Moyer (Jr., 1)
**RT** 75 Sammy Williams (Sr., 1); 70 Barry Giles (Sr., 2)
**TE** **80 Stephen Alexander (Sr., 3)**; 86 Jason Freeman (Jr., 2)
**QB** 12 Justin Fuente (So., 1); **1 Eric Moore (Jr., 2)**
**FB** 30 Jermaine Fazande (Jr., 2); 20 Michael Rose (Sr., 3)
**HB** **33 DéMond Parker (So., 1)**; 34 Bennie Butler (Jr., 0)
**FL** **10 Gerald Williams (Jr., 2)**; 83 Todd Barnes (So., 1)
**K** **15 Jeremy Alexander (Sr., 3)**

### DEFENSE (7)

**DE** 96 Shaq Brown (Sr., 1); 91 Mike Phipps (Sr., 1)
**DT** **97 Kelly Gregg (Jr., 2)**; 98 Steve Williams (So., 1)
**DT** **93 Martin Chase (Sr., 3)**; 94 Ryan Fisher (Fr., 0)
**DE** 87 Cornelius Burton (So., 1); 78 Ryan Allen (So., 1)
**LB** **36 Travian Smith (Sr., 3); 40 Chris Justice (So., 1)**
**LB** 49 Terrance Malone (Jr., 2); 43 Corey Ivy (Sr., 2)
**LB** **84 Dale Allen (So., 1)**; 31 Brandon Berg (Fr., 0)
**CB** 2 Mike Woods (So., 1); 21 Ramon Burroughs (Sr., 1)
**CB** 4 Pee Wee Woods (So., 1); 7 Cedric Stephens (Jr., 2)
**SS** **18 Terry White (Jr., 2)**; 8 Brandon Daniels (So., 1)
**FS** **29 Gana Joseph (Jr., 1)**; 47 Rodney Rideau (So., 1)
**P** 86 Jason Freeman (Jr., 2)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Louisville Cardinals

Head Coach ..... Ron Cooper
1996 Record (C-USA) ..... 5–6 (2–3)
1997 Prediction ..... 3rd C-USA
Home Field..... Cardinal Stadium (35,500)

The losses are substantial. Gone from the Louisville defense are six stalwarts who combined for 443 tackles, 49 tackles for loss and 37 passes broken up. They helped the Cardinal defense rank fourth overall nationally.

But coach Ron Cooper isn't concerned. Last fall, Louisville was forced to use young players on both sides of the ball due to overwhelming injury problems. The experience gained should help the youthful squad prepare for a non-conference schedule that includes road games against Kentucky and Oklahoma, and home games with Utah, Illinois and Penn State.

Miguel Montano

Joe Robbins

Louisville returns nine offensive and six defensive starters. Sophomore Chris Redman possesses a strong arm and quiet confidence that will make him one of the nation's best sophomore quarterbacks. He was 144-of-272 (.529) for 1,773 yards a year ago as a redshirt freshman. If he develops as he should with experience, paying particular attention to his 1996 touchdown-to-interception ratio of 8/9, he will prime himself for a junior season that could be nationally significant.

The Cardinals probably have C-USA's deepest backfield rotation. Late-season starter sophomore tailback Tendai Charasika (5–6, 187) darted for 93 yards on 19 carries in the Cardinals' 13–10 win over Memphis, and is expected to further elevate his play. Junior Raphael Cooper, a transfer from the University of Minnesota, is a game breaker with speed and explosiveness, and may open the season as the starter.

The two fullbacks are both recovered from injuries and will start: Senior fullback Donnell Gordon, the team's leading rusher in '96, and Junior Frank Moreau, a 240-pound bull who missed most of 1996 due to a torn anterior cruciate ligament.

Senior receiver Miguel Montano is a proven star, a second-team All-C-USA pick from last fall. Sophomores Charles Sheffield and Yeasive Ware exhibit great potential and are expected to at least triple their production of six and eight catches respectively. Former scout team walk-on Arnold Jackson, a freshman, will make a contribution.

Senior tight end Mike Bogan missed spring work due to injuries. He will have to share time with converted fullback Ibn Green, a sophomore with great hands and blocking ability. Green started eight games at fullback but never carried the ball.

Last year's line received some criticism for its somewhat lackluster production. Cooper wants improvement. Senior center Graig Hoffman will be the leader of the front wall. He is dependable and steady. Junior guard Rick Nord is a returning full-time starter and perhaps this unit's best player.

The other starting guard could be sophomore Anthony Byrd, although fellow sophomore John Suski will also play. At the tackle spots, Mark Grivna (6–9, 330) will start on the weak side, with senior Ivan Bennette manning the strong side.

Senior end Kendrick Gholston is an All-America candidate and clearly the best defensive lineman in the league. If he duplicates his seven sacks of last season he'll become the school's all-time leader in that category. Sophomore Derrick Kennedy, a player about whom Cooper is quite optimistic, is the favorite at the other end.

At the tackles will be senior Matt Conway and the combo of sophomore Mike Gantous and senior Rondel Marsh.

Senior middle linebacker Terry Rice-Locket will challenge for all-league honors and should easily lead the team in tackles for losses (he had 13 last fall). Junior Tony Esters, a converted defensive back with the ability to create turnovers, is at one outside spot. Senior Ramon Brayan, back after missing most of last season due to a suspension, is at the other.

**6–9, 350** The height and weight of freshman offensive lineman Walter McGary, a recent honor-roll graduate of North Cobb High School in Kennesaw, Ga.

Starting the final six games of last season helped the confidence of then-freshman free safety Courtney Dinkins. He will be joined by senior strong safety John Fuqua. On the corners, look for senior Deran Wiley to secure a starting assignment. The other cornerback could be redshirt freshman Jamara Clark, Nebraska sophomore transfer Karnell Matthews or junior Dar-Shay Purry, a converted wide receiver.

The Louisville punting game is in the dependable hands of junior Jeremy Borseth, who placed 21 punts inside opponents' 20-yard-line last season. Untested junior Jon Hilbert is the new placekicker. Cooper should be the primary kick returner, with sophomore Danny Mosby returning punts.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

| | |
|---|---|
| WR | **8 Miguel Montano (Sr., 3)**; 86 Arnold Jackson (Fr., 0) |
| LT | 73 Ivan Bennette (Sr., 1); 77 Joe O'Shaughnessy (Fr., 0) |
| LG | **65 Anthony Byrd (So., 1); 69 Jon Suski (So., 1)** |
| C | **53 Graig Hoffman (Sr., 3)**; 50 P.J. Zariczny (Jr., 1) |
| RG | **70 Rick Nord (Jr., 2)**; 77 66 James Pesavento (Sr., 1) |
| RT | 71 Mark Grivna (So., 1); 62 Josh Richardson (So., 1) |
| TE | **6 Ibn Green (So., 1); 84 Mike Bogan (Sr., 3)** |
| QB | **7 Chris Redman (So., 1)**; 12 Tony Bellamy (Fr., 0) |
| FB | 17 Otis Floyd (Jr., 1); **22 Donnell Gordon (Sr., 1)** |
| TB | 5 Raphael Cooper (Jr., 1); 31 Tendai Charasika (So., 1) |
| WR | 18 Yeasive Ware (So., 1); 9 Casswell Goodman (Jr., 1) |
| K | 41 Jon Hilbert (Jr., 0) |

### DEFENSE (6)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | 96 Derrick Kennedy (So., 1); 59 Matt Sexton (Fr., 0) |
| DT | **92 Matt Conway (Sr., 2)**; Anthony Bonner |
| DT | 74 Mike Gantous (So., 1); 95 Rondel Marsh (Sr., 3) |
| DE | **90 Kendrick Gholston (Sr., 2)**; 98 Randy Zilko (Fr., 0) |
| LB | **21 Tony Esters (Jr., 2)**; 40 David Washington (So., 0) |
| LB | **35 Terry Rice-Locket (Sr., 3)**; 54 Graig Gotcher (Fr., 0) |
| LB | 57 Ramon Brayan (Sr., 3); 20 Bud Herring (Fr., 0) |
| CB | 42 Karnell Matthews (So., 1); 3 Deran Wiley (Sr., 1) |
| CB | 34 Jamara Clark (Fr., 0); 14 Dar-Shay Purry (Jr., 1) |
| SS | **24 John Fuqua (Sr., 3)**; 27 Don Bibb (So., 1) |
| FS | **19 Courtney Dinkins (So., 1)**; 33 Martise Corley (Fr., 0) |
| P | **38 Jeremy Borseth (Jr., 2)** |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Missouri Tigers

Head Coach ..... Larry Smith
1996 Record (Big 12) .... 5–6 (3–5)
1997 Prediction ..... 4th Big 12 North
Home Field..... Memorial Stadium (62,000)

Heading into his fourth season, Missouri head coach Larry Smith believes his Tigers have made some progress, but haven't reached the point where they can count bowl wins instead of moral victories.

"We don't have bad practices anymore," Smith says.

At quarterback, Junior Corby Jones is well suited to Smith's option offense. He rushed for 742 yards and nine touchdowns a year ago. Jones' passing, though improved, is less than satisfactory. Despite throwing only three interceptions, he ranked 11th among Big 12 quarterbacks in passing efficiency.

Corby Jones

David Preston

Redshirt freshman Ryan Douglass, son of former Chicago Bears quarterback Bobby Douglass, figures to be the backup and will likely get an opportunity considering the physical pounding an option quarterback takes.

Returning at running back is senior Brock Olivo who does a little bit of everything with commitment and enthusiasm. Olivo led the Tigers in rushing with 749 yards and five touchdowns, and was second in pass receptions with 22. He needs 260 yards to become Missouri's career rushing leader. Olivo also plays on special teams and would probably play defense if asked.

The running game also features junior Devin West, Olivo's backup, a 215-pound 4.4 speedster West started four games in 1996 and contributed 652 rushing yards to the team total.

Senior fullback Ernest Blackwell (6–3, 235) has 4.4 speed and tailback skills. One of Blackwell's five touchdowns last season came on an 81-yard run at Baylor. He steals playing time from a 276-pound guard in the backfield, senior Ron Janes.

The Tigers don't have a proven deep threat at wide receiver. Senior Ricky Ross showed signs of that ability before suffering a broken ankle last season. Whether he can compete is still conjecture.

If Missouri uses more double-tight end alignments, young players must step up to join junior Jake Stueve. Jayson Hughes, a redshirt freshman, has speed but no experience.

Missouri ranked third in the Big 12 and ninth in the nation in rushing, gaining 2,758 yards, the second-highest total in school history. Much of the credit goes to the line where senior guard Mike Morris, who has 28 consecutive starts, is an all-conference-caliber run blocker. He's joined by senior Travis Biebel, juniors Todd Neimeyer and Cliff Smith and sophomore Rob Riti, who moved from guard to center in the spring. All have starting experience.

The defensive line is not so lucky. The line must play strong while a young secondary matures. However, the Tigers don't have the size to hold up against the big offensive lines of Nebraska and Colorado.

Senior tackle Brian Cracraft is considered one of the nation's best at his position, for his size (6–3, 257). Cracraft relies on his quickness and speed in order to get the job done. Junior Justin Wyatt, a potent pass rusher, has moved from end to guard. Donnell Jones returns at nose tackle, Sam Josue is the end and Shawn Sundall is the bandit. All three are seniors.

Weak-side linebacker Barry Odom, a sophomore, has 4.47 speed in the 40, and he doesn't run away from collisions. In Odom's debut as a starter against Iowa State, he made 18 tackles, including a sack, and forced a fumble. Kevin Ford, a senior, is bigger than Odom but not as fast. He was moved from the bandit position back to strong-side linebacker in the spring.

**101** Percent of the Tigers' net rushing yardage returning from last season, thanks, in part, to the transfer of two quarterbacks whose combined rushing total was minus-43 yards.

Senior cornerback Shad Criss is the team's fastest player, doing 4.25 in the 40, a school record. His speed helps him cover receivers one-on-one, and he's an aggressive tackler.

Junior Randy Potter and sophomore Carlos Posey bring speed to the corner, while strong safety Caldrinoff Easter, a junior, is reliable in run support. Free safety Harold Piersey can cover man-to-man, having played the nickel back role as a sophomore last season.

Missouri intercepted only nine passes last season, contributing to a dreadful turnover ratio ranking of 106th among NCAA Division I-A teams.

Sophomore Vince Sebo, who kicks barefoot, averaged 45 yards per punt last season but didn't have enough punts to qualify for NCAA statistics. Freshman Jason Sproull was recruited to be the No. 1 placekicker. Kickoff and punt return duties will be handled by West and Potter respectively.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

| | |
|---|---|
| WR | 4 Ricky Ross (Sr., 1); **87 Eddie Brooks (Jr., 2)** |
| LT | **61 Travis Biebel (Sr., 2)**; 64 Chris Meredith (Jr., 1) |
| LG | **62 Mike Morris (Sr., 3)**; 78 Mike Silliman (So., 0) |
| C | **76 Rob Riti (So., 1)**; 52 Michael Valadez (So., 0) |
| RG | 70 Cliff Smith (Jr., 2); 57 Craig Heimburger (Jr., 2) |
| RT | **69 Todd Neimeyer (Jr., 2)**; 71 Joe Glauberman (Fr., 0) |
| TE | 88 Jake Stueve (Jr., 2); 91 Jayson Hughes (Fr., 0) |
| QB | **7 Corby Jones (Jr., 2)**; 11 Ryan Douglass (Fr., 0) |
| FB | **34 Ron Janes (Sr., 3)**; 33 Ernest Blackwell (Sr., 3) |
| TB | **27 Brock Olivo (Sr., 3)**; 32 Devin West (Jr., 2) |
| WR | 80 Torey Coleman (Sr., 1); 81 Jay Murchison (Sr., 3) |
| K | 19 Scott Knickman (Sr., 1); 3 Tim Geiger (So., 0) |

### DEFENSE (6)

| | |
|---|---|
| RE | 51 Sam Josue (Sr., 1); 99 Neil Pipkin (Fr., 0) |
| NG | **90 Justin Wyatt (Jr., 2); 93 Jeff Marriott (So., 1)** |
| NT | **97 Donnell Jones (Sr., 2)**; 77 Pat Mingucci (So., 0) |
| DT | **59 Brian Cracraft (Sr., 3)**; 94 Steve Erickson (So., 1) |
| LB | 56 Shawn Sundall (Sr., 3); 35 Philip Hickman (Jr., 1) |
| LB | **30 Kevin Ford (Sr., 3)**; 36 Al Sterling (Jr., 1) |
| LB | 39 Barry Odom (So., 1); 6 Kaleon Green (Jr., 0) |
| CB | 21 Randy Potter (Jr., 2); 15 Andre Roberson (Fr., 0) |
| CB | 24 Carlos Posey (So., 1); 15 Andre Roberson (Fr., 0) |
| SS | **1 Caldrinoff Easter (Jr., 2)**; 12 Terrence Binion (Sr., 2) |
| FS | 22 Harold Piersey (Jr., 2); 14 Julian Jones (Fr., 0) |
| P | **17 Vince Sebo (So., 1)**; 25 Jason Smith (Jr., 2) |

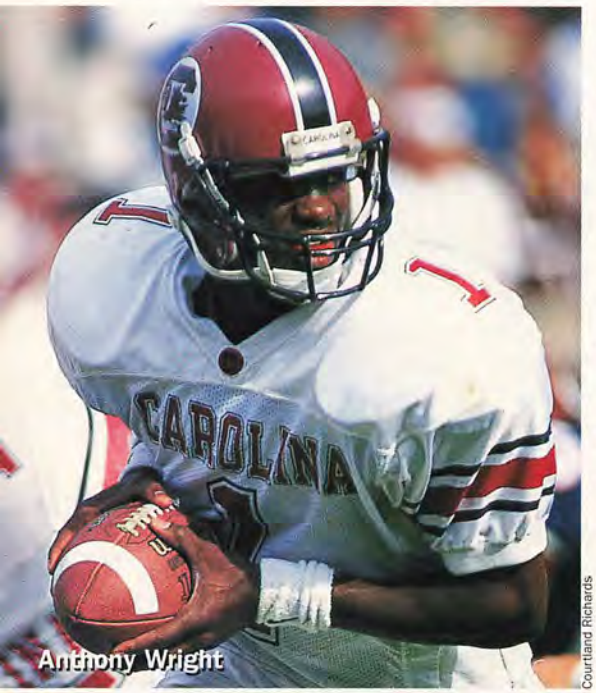
*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# South Carolina Gamecocks

Head Coach .....Brad Scott
1996 Record (SEC) .....6–5 (4–4)
1997 Prediction .....5th SEC East
Home Field.....Williams-Price Stadium (80,250)

When Brad Scott signed on for his tour of duty as South Carolina head coach in 1994, he declined to place himself or his program on a timetable. "When you do that, people figure you're either running ahead of schedule so you're a genius, or you're behind schedule so you don't know what you're doing," he said.

Three seasons later, the Gamecocks are 17–16–1 on his watch, have played in one bowl and and have won two out of three against archrival Clemson but lost at home to East Carolina 23–7 last year.



Anthony Wright

Courtland Richards

Scott has recruited well enough that South Carolina can match up physically with the majority of teams in the SEC.

Junior quarterback Anthony Wright will have more to handle as Scott expands the offense out of necessity and in response to Wright's experience and talent. Wright is at his best in the shotgun formation, and that will again be a staple in Scott's scheme to spread the defense.

But all that scrambling puts Wright in harm's way and accentuates the lack of a proven backup. With Chad Barnhart's departure, redshirt freshman Victor Penn is the No. 2 man. If Wright misses any significant action, it could be disastrous.

Senior Scott Moritz exited spring practice as the No. 1 tailback, but much of the attention is focused on sophomores Troy Hambrick and Boo Williams. Moritz is a dependable straight-ahead runner. Hambrick is a classic north-south runner with power and acceleration, while Williams specializes in quick moves in and out of traffic.

Sophomore Steve Mixon is the incumbent fullback after starting six games as a redshirt freshman and is at his best as a blocker.

As a redshirt freshman, Zola Davis caught 58 passes for 911 yards and nine touchdowns. Last season his production dropped precipitously to 24 receptions, 303 yards and one TD. Davis, now a junior, was ranked the No. 1 wide receiver prospect in the nation as a high school senior. He had a good spring and appears on track again.

Other key targets in the Gamecocks' three-wideout formation are sophomore Kerry Hood, senior Calvin Owens and redshirt freshman Jermale Kelly.

Look for South Carolina to run behind the tandem of All-SEC tackle Jamar Nesbit and senior guard Travis Whitfield, both two-year starters. Senior Paul Beckwith started the last two seasons at center, and senior guard Ed Hrubiec improved greatly in '96. Sophomore Jason Thomas moves up at tackle.

Senior tackles Henry Taylor and Michael Maddox are especially effective against the run, but the lack of a consistent pass rush out of the front four is an area of prime concern.

John Abraham had four sacks and eight hurries as a true freshman and will take over full-time at end. Senior Selvesta Miller is the likely starter at the other end,

Much of the Gamecocks' defensive scheme is geared to getting senior outside linebacker Darren Hambrick into position to create havoc. It is a gamble at times, but rewards can be huge because Hambrick flies to the football like few players in the conference.

Senior Shane Burnham is an undersized middle linebacker (5–11, 221) who always seems to be in the right place and is a sure tackler. Sophomore Corey Atkins, who had a very good spring, plays the outside opposite Hambrick.

The fact that junior free safety Arturo Freeman led the Gamecocks in tackles last season with 99 indicates that opposing running backs and receivers often broke clear, forcing Freeman to make the play. The fact that he had time to intercept three passes while covering for his teammates is a testament to Freeman's ability.

**3.2** You hear about coaches wanting run-pass balance in their offenses, but seldom does a team come as close as South Carolina did in 1996. The Gamecocks averaged 178.9 yards on the ground and only 3.2 fewer yards (175.7) in the air.

Senior strong safety Ben Washington joins Freeman to give South Carolina two of the most physical defensive backs in the SEC. Senior Lee Wiggins returns in one corner, while junior college transfers Homer Torrance and Kevin Brooks will vie for the other.

Courtney Leavitt made Freshman All-SEC while on double duty. He averaged 37.9 yards per punt and drilled 25-of-27 PATs. This year, he'll be kicking field goals too, but must improve on intermediate and long-range accuracy after making just two-of-six from outside 30 yards early last season.

The return game was ineffective and can only get better. Look for Boo Williams and perhaps a freshman or two as key return men.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

**WR** 21 Zola Davis (Jr., 2); 84 Jermale Kelly (Fr., 0)
**LT** **79 Jamar Nesbit (Jr., 2);** 77 Jim Pietrzak (Fr., 0)
**LG** **78 Travis Whitfield (Sr., 3);** 67 Jesse Washington (Sr., 0)
**C** **53 Paul Beckwith (Sr., 3);** 50 Scott Browne (Fr., 0)
**RG** **63 Ed Hrubiec (Sr., 3);** 76 Derek Bridges (Fr., 0)
**RT** 73 Jason Thomas (So., 1); 70 Andray Spearman (Jr., 1)
**TE** **41 Jason Lawson (Sr., 3);** 86 Trevon Matthews (So., 1)
**QB** **1 Anthony Wright (Jr., 2);** 17 Victor Penn (Fr., 0)
**FB** **32 Steve Mixon (So., 1);** 11 Jacob Bush (So., 1)
**TB** 40 Scott Moritz (Sr., 3); 19 Troy Hambrick (So., 1)
**WR** 9 Kerry Hood (So., 1); 82 Calvin Owens (Sr., 2)
**K** 7 Courtney Leavitt (So., 1); 15 Steve Florio (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (8)

**DE** 95 John Abraham (So., 1); 34 Preston Vinson (Jr., 0)
**DT** **90 Henry Taylor (Sr., 3);** 98 Rachad Wilson (Jr., 0)
**DT** **93 Michael Maddox (Sr., 1);** 96 Cecil Caldwell (So., 0)
**DE** **55 Selvesta Miller (Sr., 2);** 94 Matt Marsters (So., 1)
**OLB** 58 Corey Atkins (So., 1); 57 Errol Rochester (So., 1)
**MLB** **52 Shane Burnham (Sr., 3);** 44 Mark Love (Sr., 1)
**OLB** **18 Darren Hambrick (Sr., 1);** 48 Jody Caldwell (Jr., 2)
**CB** 25 Homer Torrance (Jr., 0); 5 Kevin Brooks (Jr., 0)
**CB** **27 Lee Wiggins (Sr., 3);** 13 Keris Sullivan (Jr., 1)
**SS** **6 Ben Washington (Sr, 3);** 33 Maurice Henderson (Jr., 2)
**FS** **12 Arturo Freeman (Jr., 2);** 3 Ray Green (So., 1)
**P** **7 Courtney Leavitt (So., 1);** 15 Sreve Florio (Jr., 2)

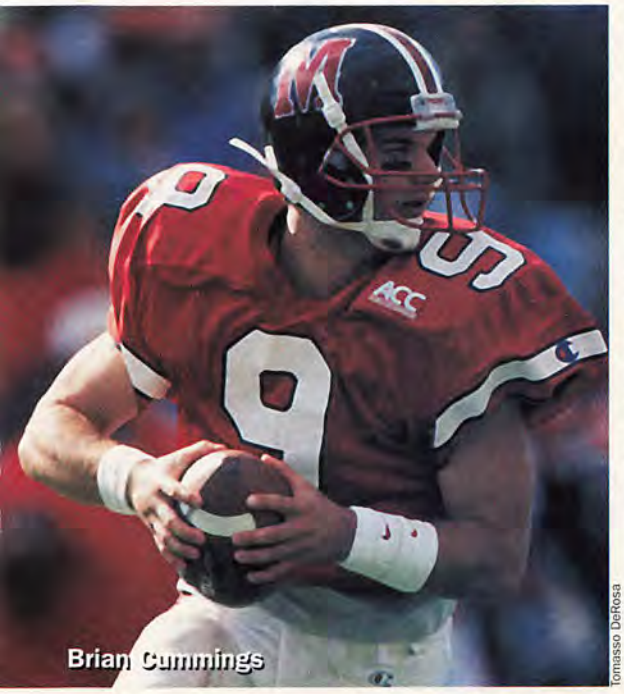
*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Maryland Terrapins

**Head Coach** ..... **Ron Vanderlinden**
**1996 Record (ACC)**..... **5–6 (3–5)**
**1997 Prediction** ..... **7th ACC**
**Home Field**..... **Byrd Stadium (48,055)**

Ron Vanderlinden, with impressive records as defensive line coach (Colorado) and defensive coordinator (Northwestern), now has his first head coaching job. He's a good candidate to restore Maryland to prominence.

The Terps had a winning record as recently as 1995 (6–5 after a 4–0 start), but last year's mark of 5–6 was the fifth losing season in six years and cost coach Mark Duffner his job (20–35 in five years).


Brian Cummings

Tomasso DeRosa

"Our challenge will be to develop a physical running attack and a strong play-action passing attack," Vanderlinden says.

Maryland returns six starters on offense, including senior quarterback Brian Cummings who started eight games last year. He was 92-of-173 (.532) for 1,127 yards with seven touchdowns and nine interceptions. The backup, sophomore Ken Mastrole, started the other three games but completed only 40.4 percent of his passes for 354 yards and one TD, with three interceptions.

Of the top four ground-gainers who return, senior tailback Brian Underwood (three starts) was the leader with 449 yards and a 4.6-yard average. The regular, senior Buddy Rodgers (six starts), rushed for 447 yards and averaged 4.5 yards a carry. Sophomore Harold Westley added 421 yards (3.6 average) and junior Clifton Crosby averaged 6.7 yards, but carried only 26 times.

Rodgers can also play fullback and could be the successor to the departed Mario Chavez, though sophomores Peter Timmins and Kenny Rogers also have designs on the fullback assignment.

Junior wideout Bruce James, who caught 21 passes, is the top returning receiver since Geroy Simon graduated. James has some starting experience, excellent speed and proven skills. He will be the headliner of the wide receiver corps. Sophomore Troy Davidson (13 catches) is the only other returning wide receiver with more than 10 receptions.

Redshirt freshmen Moises Cruz and Omar Cheeseboro finished spring practice rated even at the wideout spot opposite James, and junior Kendrick Walton will also challenge for a starting role.

Neither of the leading candidates for the tight end vacancy, seniors Tim Brown and Josh Hough, caught a pass last year. But then, last year's starter, the departed Craig Fitzgerald, caught only two. Redshirt freshman Mike Hull (6–5, 231) has better-than-average speed and could be starting at tight end before the season is very far along.

Four starters return to the offensive line — senior tackle Darryl Gilliam, junior tackle John Feugill and senior guards Mitch Watkins and Pat Ward. Sophomores Vincent Xanthos and Ben Thomas both bring game experience to the center position, the only hole to be filled up front. Junior Ryan Rezzelle and sophomores Eric Timothy, Jamie Wu and Brad Messina are battle-tested backups in the line.

Of the four starters returning on defense, two played up front — senior tackle Johnnie Hicks and senior end Eric Ogbogu. Ogbogu and senior end Eric Hicks (no relation to Johnnie) shared the team lead with 15 tackles for loss, and Ogbogu led the team in sacks with seven. Sophomore Delbert Cowsette started several games at tackle, and is now full-time.

After watching last year's films, Vanderlinden decided the Terps' strength was the front seven on defense. The only loss is inside linebacker Ratcliff Thomas, one of the top tacklers in Maryland history. But junior starters Eric Barton (inside) and Kendall Ogle (outside) return. Barton was the leading tackler with 106 stops.

Sophomore Erwyn Lyght will man the weak side and inject some speed into the position. Seniors Rhett Hesprich and Brett White return as backups.

**42** The number of bowls, including three Super Bowls, in which the members of coach Ron Vanderlinden's staff have participated.

Senior strong safety Henry Baker, who had two starts last year, now takes over a leadership role for defensive backs where all four '96 starters graduated. Others who saw action in the 1996 secondary include sophomores Lewis Sanders and Lynde Washington, who will split time in one corner, and junior free safety Paul Jackson. Sophomore Troy Davidson will take over in the other corner.

Junior Brad Rhodes is being challenged for placement duties by incoming freshman Brian Kopka. Junior Russell Edwards did all the punting and averaged 36.5 yards., but he could be pushed by redshirt freshman Sean Starner, the 1995 all-state prep punter in Pennsylvania with a 42.3-yard average.

New kickoff and punt returners must be found.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

**WR** 19 Bruce James (Jr., 2); 11 Kendrick Walton (Jr., 2)
**LT** **68 Darryl Gilliam (Sr., 3)**; 73 Ryan Rezzelle (Jr., 2)
**LG** **54 Mitch Watkins (Sr., 2)**; 70 Eric Timothy (So., 1)
**C** 78 Vince Xanthos (So., 1); 63 Ben Thomas (So, 1)
**RG** **71 Pat Ward (Sr., 3)**; 56 Jamie Wu (So., 1)
**RT** **66 John Feugill (Jr., 2)**; 75 Brad Messina (So., 1)
**TE** 89 Tim Brown (Sr., 3); 92 Mike Hull (Fr., 0)
**QB** **9 Brian Cummings (Sr., 3)**; 14 Ken Mastrole (So., 1)
**FB** 47 Peter Timmins (So., 1); 23 Kenny Rogers (So., 1)
**TB** **34 Buddy Rodgers (Sr., 3)**; 40 Brian Underwood (Sr., 3)
**WR** 86 Moises Cruz (Fr., 0); 3 Omar Cheeseboro (Fr., 0)
**K** 7 Brad Rhodes (Jr., 0)

### DEFENSE (4)

**DE** 90 Eric Hicks (Sr., 3); 58 Jason Brown (Sr., 2)
**DT** **53 Johnnie Hicks (Sr., 3)**; 98 Anthony Jenkins (Sr., 2)
**DT** 91 Delbert Cowsette (So., 1); 95 Ramon Olivares (Sr., 2)
**DE** **42 Eric Ogbogu (Sr., 3)**; 55 Rasheed Simmons (Jr., 2)
**LB** **32 Kendall Ogle (Jr., 2)**; 51 Rhett Hesprich (Sr., 2)
**LB** **44 Eric Barton (Jr., 2)**; 50 Brett White (Sr., 3)
**LB** 41 Erwyn Lyght (So., 1); 29 Ryan Gick (Sr., 2)
**CB** 37 Lewis Sanders (So., 1); 12 Lynde Washington (So.,1 )
**CB** 20 Troy Davidson (So., 1); 25 Clifton Crosby (Jr., 2)
**SS** 2 Henry Baker (Sr., 2): 18 Todd Stewart (So., 1)
**FS** 36 Paul Jackson (Jr., 2); 27 Daniel Eiskant (So., 1)
**P** **30 Russell Edwards (Jr., 1)**

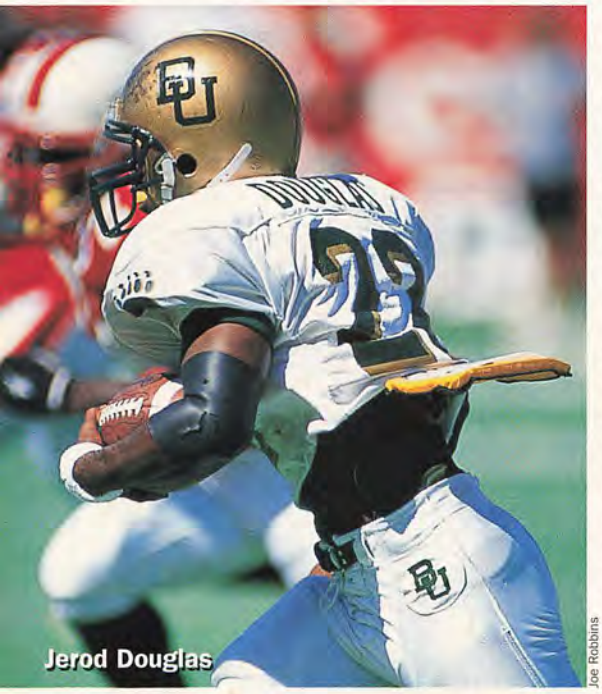
*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Baylor Bears

Head Coach ..... Dave Roberts
1996 Record (Big 12) .... 4–7 (1–7)
1997 Prediction ..... 5th Big 12 South
Home Field..... Floyd Case Stadium (50,000)

Chuck Reedy seemed confident going into his fourth season as head coach at Baylor, but at season's end he was fired and replaced by former Notre Dame offensive coordinator Dave Roberts.

Odell James, who was recruited by Reedy, has yet to play a down at Baylor because of a knee problem that was corrected by surgery in November. He's an unknown quantity, especially in the pro-style passing offense Roberts is installing.


Jerod Douglas

Joe Robbins

Neither of the returning quarterbacks has played in such a system. Starting senior Jeff Watson, who missed five games in the middle because of back spasms, is a 50 percent passer for his career. Junior Jermaine Alfred seems a better fit for Roberts' system. He's bigger and has a stronger arm, but lacks Watson's experience and consistency.

At running back, senior Jerod Douglas missed two games and saw limited action in three others because of injuries. A scatback with 4.3 speed in the 40, he's totaled 5.8 yards per carry in his three seasons. Douglas is complemented by junior Dexter Ford, a power runner who also can play fullback.

The Bears running backs are strong enough that sophomore Elijah Burkins, another Reedy signee, could move to wide receiver. There is no proven deep threat here. Pearce Pegross decided to skip his senior season and enter the NFL draft. Juniors Morris Anderson and Derrius Thompson played in seven games each, combining for 20 catches and 261 yards. Thompson has good size but has yet to develop sticky hands.

Sophomore Mark Cogdill emerged as a receiver late in the year, catching 13 passes for 163 yards and two touchdowns in only three games. Junior Nikia Codie, the starting free safety in '96, is now a wide receiver.

The offensive line will be boosted by the return of senior David Davis, who missed last season because injury. He and senior Michael Johnson give the Bears big, strong, experienced tackles around whom to build a front. Depth, however, is a problem.

The Bears No. 106 national ranking in total defense was primarily a result of their inability to stop the run. Roberts has addressed that by scrapping the 3–4 basic defense in favor of a 4–3. He has tried to bolster the line by moving junior Anthony Williams, a starter and one of Baylor's best young offensive linemen, to defense, where he joins junior Derrick Fletcher up front.

Fletcher (6–6, 350) is one of the team's strongest players, but he has been inconsistent and there are questions regarding his durability. Roberts wants him to trim down to the 325-335 range by fall, which should help his mobility.

Sophomores Justin Snow and Dwight Johnson bring physical skill and one year's experience each to the end positions.

Dean Jackson was the heart of the defense and the Bears' leading tackler. He underwent surgery in December for a serious neck injury, which unexpectedly ended his career one season early. Without him, Baylor's linebacking figures to be adequate at best.

Sophomore Don Arroyo and junior Kenyada Parker are the leading contenders in the middle. Arroyo, Jackson's backup, has more size. Parker, who moves from strong-side linebacker, is faster.

Senior Glenn Coy, showed big-play potential, tying for second on the team in sacks with three. Junior Clarence Cruse was active at strong-side linebacker, making 73 tackles and breaking up three passes.

Sophomore Jason Jackson was pressed into duty late in his first collegiate season and responded with 35 tackles in four games.

Defensive back senior Rodney Artmore, an emotional leader at strong safety, recorded 91 tackles, second-most on the team. He also grabbed one of the Bears' 11 interceptions. Junior Curtis Henderson had 68 tackles in 10 games and could start at free safety. At cornerback, sophomore Robert Neal, a true freshman, was starting by season's end.

**111** This is where Baylor ranked nationally in rushing defense a year ago — dead last in Division I-A. The Bears allowed a total of 285.9 yards rushing per game.

Senior Matt Anderson at left cornerback has 4.3 speed in the 40 but will be learning a new system for the third time in his college career. He played at Vanderbilt as a freshman. Senior Joe Manor returns after sitting out last season for academic reasons and is another corner possibility.

Replacing Ty Atteberry, the nation's fourth-best punter last season, likely will fall on transfer Matt Bryant, a junior. Sophomore Kyle Atteberry, Ty's younger brother, returns as the placekicker after converting 4-of-10 field-goal attempts as a redshirt freshman.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | **20 Mark Cogdill (So., 1)**; 7 Nikia Codie (Jr., 2) |
| LT | 79 David Davis (Sr., 3); 73 Larry McRae (So., 1) |
| LG | **55 Chris Sampy (Jr., 1)**; 77 Shane Willems (So., 0) |
| C | 53 Danny Fletcher (Sr., 3); 74 Brian Sutton (So., 1) |
| RG | **69 Michael Johnson (Sr., 3)**; 54 Toby Summers (So., 1) |
| RT | **59 Kelvin Garmon (Jr., 2)**; 76 Carlos Rocha (So., 1) |
| TE | **80 Bradley Domel (Sr, 3)**; 83 Chad Chmelar (Jr., 1) |
| QB | **17 Jermaine Alfred (Jr., 2)**; 7 Jeff Watson (Sr., 3) |
| FB | 8 Dexter Ford (Jr., 2); 34 David Bennett (Fr., 0) |
| TB | **22 Jerod Douglas (Sr., 3)**; 6 Darrell Bush (Fr., 0) |
| WR | 9 Morris Anderson (Jr., 2); 13 Derrius Thompson (Jr., 2) |
| K | **33 Kyle Atteberry (So., 1)** |

### DEFENSE (6)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | **82 Dwight Johnson (So., 1)**; 75 Ellis Cotton (Fr., 0) |
| NT | **99 Derrick Fletcher (Jr., 2)**; 91 James Calvin (So., 1) |
| DE | 83 Justin Snow (So., 1); 93 Melvin Gardner (Fr., 1) |
| LB | **58 Glenn Coy (Sr., 3)**; 17 Cornelius Banks (Jr., 1) |
| LB | 44 Don Arroyo (So., 1); 37 Kenyada Parker (Jr., 2) |
| LB | **20 Clarence Cruse (Jr., 2)**; 30 Leonard Hill (Sr., 1) |
| LB | 55 Jason Jackson (So., 1); 52 Matt Brown (So., 1) |
| CB | **23 Robert Neal (So., 1 )**; 19 Allen Pace (So., 1) |
| CB | 15 Matt Anderson (Sr., 1); Joe Manor (Sr., 2) |
| SS | **24 Rodney Artmore (Sr., 1)**; 25 Brandon Bonds (So., 0) |
| FS | 46 Curtis Henderson (Jr., 1); 14 Rodney SMith (So., 1) |
| P | Matt Bryant (So., 0) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

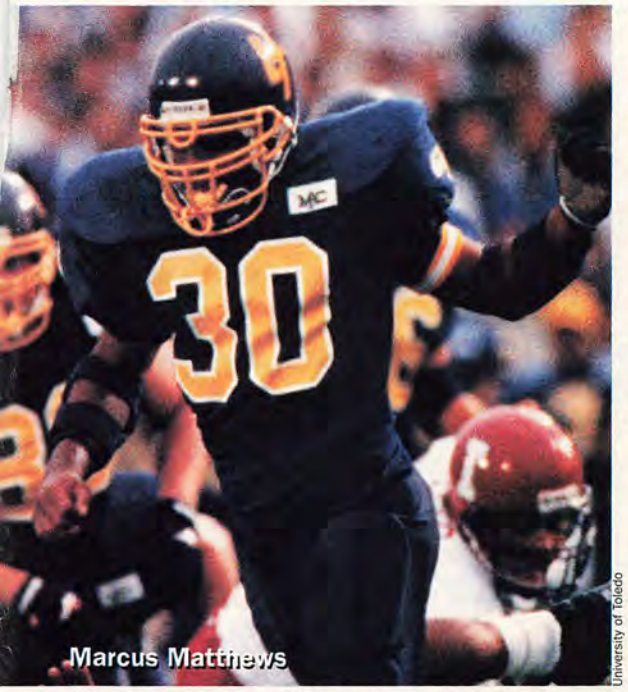
# Toledo Rockets

**Head Coach** ..... **Gary Pinkel**
**1996 Record (MAC)** ..... **7–4 (6–2)**
**1997 Prediction** ..... **1st MAC West**
**Home Field** ..... **Glass Bowl (26,248)**

During the 1990s, Toledo has led the Mid-American Conference in victories — and injuries.

— In 1993, the Rockets lost three tailbacks in 11 days and six more starters during the season.

— In 1994, they lost 16 players on the defensive two-deep roster, including 10 starters.


Marcus Matthews

University of Toledo

— In 1995, the Rockets stayed relatively healthy and won the MAC crown.

— The 1996 medical report included 13 players who missed at least one game and coach Gary Pinkel had to reshuffle his lineup almost every game. The Rockets still finished 7-4 and 6-2 in MAC play for a second-place tie.

1997 didn't start out much better. Three players had their careers cut short due to injury or illness: senior tailback Sylvester Patton (knee), junior linebacker Antjuan Savage (concussions) and senior linebacker Rob Whitfield (chronic asthma).

Toledo is keeping its fingers crossed for senior tailback Wasean Tait, who gained a MAC-record 1,905 yards in 1995. He tore the patella tendon and anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee in the opening game of 1996 and Toledo subsequently went from preseason favorite to afterthought. Tait has had four surgeries since the injury, the latest in mid-March. He is progressing ahead of schedule and hopes to play this season.

"If he is able to play, it will be a great bonus," says Pinkel, whose six-year winning percentage of .634 (41–23–3) is the best among coaches who have stayed at Toledo for at least five years.

Toledo has thrived on offense for the past three years, setting 48 school records, but only five regulars return on that side of the ball compared to eight on defense.

Senior tackle Jason Richards can take control of the line of scrimmage. Senior tackle Joey Jones and senior end Loren Burkey are all three-year starters, and senior end James Ross, who transferred from Ohio State, started last year.

Two linebackers and two defensive backs also return. Senior outside linebacker Marcus Matthews had a team-high 102 tackles, including 16 for lost yardage. Junior Matt Vaillant returns at one of the inside positions. The other likely starters are sophomore Keith Travis outside and senior Joe Weaver inside.

The secondary returns senior cornerbacks Clarence Love and Rasché Sumpter. Love, an all-conference second-teamer, is the fastest player on defense having run a 4.3 40. He has a 34-inch vertical leap and broke up eight passes last year. Senior Chris Holifield moves in at free safety.

The returning running backs include senior tailback Kevin Kidd and junior fullback Lem Reynolds. Kidd was last year's leading ground-gainer with 453 yards and a 3.6 average. Reynolds was used mostly as a blocker.

Junior Justin Wooley, who can play tailback and fullback, could be Toledo's premier running back. But guess what? He missed four games last year due to concussions and a broken thumb. When healthy, he rushed for 434 yards and a 4.2 average.

Junior Chris Wallace, whose career consists of appearances in eight games, is the likely quarterback. He threw only 12 passes last year, completing three. Pinkel doesn't seem too worried.

"Yes, it's true that Chris has little game experience and (junior) Todd Riddle has none," Pinkel says. "But they've both been in the program for some time and know our system. (Redshirt freshman) Dan Cole is a great young prospect."

The Rockets lost top receiver James Spriggs, whose 754 yards were the most since 1974. Returning is junior wideout Brock Kreitzburg, who was second with 36 catches for 383 yards. Senior Romain Davis takes over the other wide receiver spot. Junior Rick Scott is the likely successor to Chip Hendon at tight end.

The offensive line returns a pair of All-MAC candidates in senior center James Bates and senior tackle Chris Williams. The other likely starters are junior tackle Colin Westrich, senior guard Mike Lenix and sophomore guard Greg Peters.

**-109** The number of rushing yards Toledo allowed Northern Illinois on Nov. 11, 1967. A NCAA single-game record.

Junior placekicker Ryan Klaer returns (8-of-13 field goals), but record-setting punter Ty Grude must be replaced, probably by redshirt freshman Greg Jones.

Junior Ray Curry returned 13 kickoffs for a 20.3-yard average, and junior Mace Freeman returned 24 punts last year for a 6.8-yard average. He also ran back 21 kickoffs for a 16.2-yard average.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | **84 Brock Kreitzburg (Jr., 2)**; 88 Jason Turner (So, 0) |
| LT | 75 Colin Westrich (Jr., 1); 62 Michael Schaefer (Fr., 0) |
| LG | 76 Greg Peters (So., 1); 63 Jovan Rich (Fr., 0) |
| C | **53 James Bates (Sr., 1)**; 79 Andy Comer (So., 0) |
| RG | 71 Mike Lenix (Sr., 0); 64 Joe Weber (So., 1) |
| RT | **74 Chris Williams (Sr., 2)**; 68 Jim Harding (Fr., 0) |
| TE | 81 Rick Scott (Jr., 2); 89 Isaiah Jackson (Jr., 1) |
| QB | 7 Chris Wallace (Jr., 0); 14 Todd Riddle (Jr., 0) |
| FB | **40 Lem Reynolds (Jr., 1)**; 45 Mike Saggese (Jr., 0) |
| TB | **32 Kevin Kidd (Sr., 2)**; 1 Justin Wooley (Jr., 1) |
| FL | 12 Romain Davis (Sr., 3); 80 Mel Long Jr., (Fr., 0) |
| K | **3 Ryan Klaer (Jr., 2)**; 37 Chris Merrick (So., 1) |

### DEFENSE (8)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | **57 Loren Burkey (Sr., 2)**; 98 Rudy Lomberger (Fr., 0) |
| DE | **86 Jason Richards (Sr., 3)**; 99 Adam Mitoraj (Fr., 0) |
| DT | **91 Joey Jones (Sr., 2)**; 97 Matt Fernandez (Sr., 3) |
| DE | **55 James Ross (Sr., 1)**; 47 Gregg King (Jr., 2) |
| LB | **30 Marcus Matthews (Sr., 3)**; 35 Justin Golden (So., 1) |
| LB | 10 Keith Travis (So., 1); 15 Derrick Beckwith (Jr., 2) |
| LB | 50 Joe Weaver (Sr, 1); 59 Kevin Rollins (Fr., 0) |
| LB | **54 Matt Vaillant (Jr., 1)**; 41 Fred Schultz (Fr., 0) |
| CB | **2 Rasché Sumpter (Sr., 2)**; 11 Kelly Herndon (Jr., 2) |
| CB | **26 Clarence Love (Sr., 3)**; 9 Jamael Turner (So., 1) |
| FS | 4 Chris Holifield (Sr., 3); 33 Paul Schzue (Fr., 0) |
| P | 42 Greg Jones (Fr., 0) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Fresno State Bulldogs

**Head Coach** ..... **Pat Hill**
**1996 Record (WAC)** ..... **4–7 (3–5)**
**1997 Prediction** ..... **3rd WAC Pacific**
**Home Field**..... **Bulldog Stadium (41,031)**

How do you replace a legend? You start from scratch, changing nearly everything but the basic offensive system that supersedes the coaching staff.

Pat Hill, a one-time assistant to retired Jim Sweeney, began a regimented off-season conditioning program, refocused academic and strength program, and focused recruiting efforts within central California to ensure that Fresno State didn't lose its base.

Michael Pittman

John Betancourt

"The biggest thing that has jumped out is that the players have responded to a new system," says Hill, who served as a tight end and offensive line coach for the Baltimore Ravens last year.

Jim Arellanes and Richie Donati are gone at quarterback. Hill is going to stick out this season with a pair of unproven quarterbacks in sophomore Bill Volek and junior Robb Wetta, who sat out last year after transferring. Both could find equal time. Wetta had a decent tenure at Idaho State, throwing 28 touchdowns. He probably has the stronger arm.

The Bulldogs' strength will be the running game, where senior tailback Michael Pittman has the cutting ability, the speed and the power to produce a 1,000-yard season. What he has to watch is the football. He lost it a few times to stop drives.

At fullback, junior Jaime Kimbrough and sophomore fullback Akka-Ar Moses should continue to get carries, with Kimbrough the best-suited to make catches out of the backfield. Kimbrough is smaller than Pittman but finds the holes just the same and might have comparable speed in the open field.

Senior Greg Minnatee picked up 28 of his 34 catches in the season's final six games. He leads the receivers who also include senior Damon Hicklin and juniors Ty Mann and Anthony Tucker. One will have to become a deep threat.

The inexperience at receiver and quarterback could be helped by the sure-handed tight ends in senior Warren Fortier, junior Scott Thompson and sophomore Vince Branstetter.

The offensive line, probably the most stable part of the offense, will be asked to do even more with pass protection to give the inexperienced quarterbacks time to throw. Seniors Chris Conrad, Michael Carr and Chris Lee, and junior Jeremiah Ross have the height, the lateral quickness and the size to provide the needed protection.

Lacking a true center, Hill will give equal turns to Carr, Lee and junior Ken Foersch to compete with Mike Stovall, a true freshman. The best of the bunch will emerge as the center, and the rest will fill out the line.

Fresno State's defense has been a sieve in the past three seasons. Too often the defensive line didn't provide the first stop, and tackles had to be made by the secondary. The only returning starter is sophomore defensive end Seandale Jackson. Senior defensive end Malchijah Perry, senior nose guard Andrew Jones and junior defensive tackle Jerry Lemon will have an edge to start.

Fresno State experimented with 4-3 and 3-4 formats during spring practice.

If a strength exists on the defensive side of the ball, it's at linebacker where A.J. Gass, who quit the team at one time, came back to lead the Bulldogs in tackles last season. He also led the WAC with 150 tackles. Gass, a senior, averaged 13 tackles a game and was one of the few reliable tacklers.

Six returning lettermen, other than Gass, will add depth. Ryan Holmes started six games, and contributed 61 tackles. Bobby Brooks should move into a starter's role this season after making a big impact with 67 tackles, fifth on the team.

The responsibility of halting fleet-footed receivers will fall to senior Marlyn Jackson and junior Cory Hall, who was second on the team to Gass with 88 tackles. The key loss is All-WAC Pacific Division safety Omar Stoutmire. Five other defensive backs return, but don't be surprised to see a few freshmen try and crack these positions.

**3** After going to three straight bowl games and making a splash as a top-tier WAC team in their first season in 1992, Fresno State's Bulldogs have suffered three consecutive losing seasons.

The specialists should be one of the strongest points on the team. Junior punter Jeff Roberts had a complete turnaround off a poor sophomore year to finish with an average of 44.7 yards. Senior placekicker Johan Lyssand was beaten out after he was injured last season. The job is Lyssand's again, and he should return to being more consistent after his starting hiatus.

Antonio Pratt, a senior kick returner, averaged 22.6 yards, but a punt returner must be found.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

| | |
|---|---|
| WR | Anthony Tucker (Jr., 1); Roderick Ward (Jr., 0) |
| LT | **Chris Conrad (Sr., 3);** Josh Kobdish (Jr., 0) |
| LG | **Michael Carr (Sr., 3);** Ken Foersch (Jr., 2) |
| C | Ken Foersch (Jr., 2); Mike Stovall (Fr., 0) |
| RG | **Chris Lee (Sr., 1);** Aaron Marsh (Sr., 1) |
| RT | **Jeremiah Ross (Jr., 1);** Rob Gatrell (So., 1) |
| TE | **Warren Fortier (Sr., 3);** Scott Thompson (Jr., 2) |
| QB | Robb Wetta (Jr., 0); Bill Volek (So., 1) |
| FB | **Jaime Kimbrough (Jr., 2);** Akka-Ar Moses (So., 1) |
| TB | **Michael Pittman (Sr., 3);** Carl Riley (Jr., 0) |
| WR | **Greg Minnatee (Sr., 1);** Damon Hicklin (Sr., 1) |
| K | Johan Lyssand (Sr., 3) |

### DEFENSE (5)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | **Seandale Jackson (So., 1);** Tim Moscardi (Jr., 0) |
| DT | Jerry Lemon (Jr., 1); Kevin Jordan (Fr., 0); |
| NG | Andrew Jones (Sr., 2) |
| DE | Malcijiah Perry (Sr., 1); J.D. Martin (Fr., 0); |
| OLB | Bobby Brooks (Sr., 2); Kevin Adams (Jr., 2) |
| MLB | **Ryan Holmes (Sr., 3);** Allan Nicholas (Sr., 1) |
| WLB | **A.J. Gass (Sr., 2);** Tyrell Grayson (Fr., 0) |
| CB | Antonio Pratt (Sr., 3); Payton Williams (So., 1) |
| CB | **Marlyn Jackson (Sr., 3);** Doc Moye (Jr., 2) |
| SS | Bernard Finley (Sr., 2); Wes Sitala (Jr., 0) |
| FS | **Cory Hall (Jr., 2);** Roderick Smith (Fr., 0) |
| P | **Jeff Roberts (Jr., 2)** |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* **BOLD** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

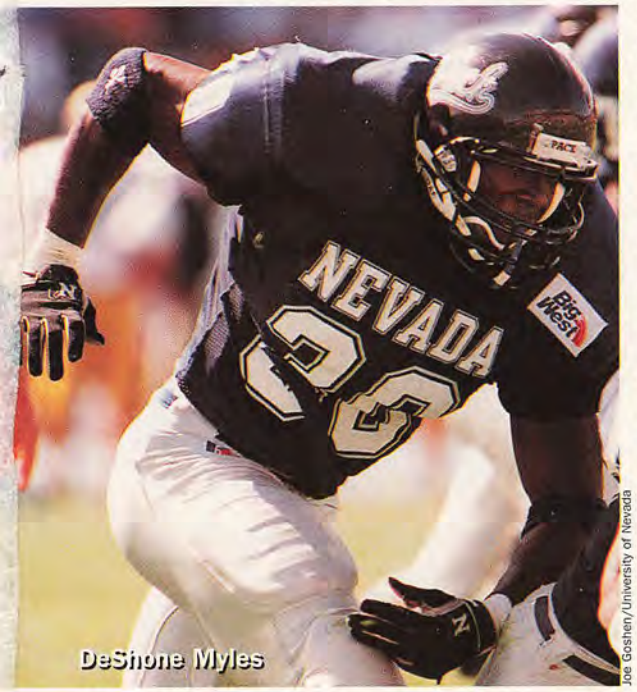
# Nevada Wolf Pack

**Head Coach .....Jeff Tisdel**
**1996 Record (Big West). 9–3 (4–1)**
**1997 Prediction .....1st Big West**
**Home Field.....Mackay Stadium (31,545)**

Although Nevada has had three head coaches in the last four years, some things never change — like the Wolf Pack's high-octane offense.

Jeff Tisdel made his debut in 1996, and for the third time in four years, Nevada led the nation in total offense, averaging more than 500 yards.

The Pack also finished second in passing and scoring (497 points were a school record), and posted a 9–3 record with two losses to Pac-10 teams. Nevada won the Big West for the second year in a row and defeated Ball State 18–15 in the Las Vegas Bowl.



DeShone Myles

Joe Goshen/University of Nevada

"We have a lot of our skill players back, but we are going to need them as we take our schedule to a new level," Tisdel says. "Our non-conference schedule is the best ever for this school."

The Wolf Pack plays Oregon, Wyoming, Southern Mississippi, Colorado State, Toledo and UNLV outside the Big West.

Seniors John Dutton and Eric Bennett alternated at quarterback in the first four games before Dutton won the job.

What that did was give Nevada a pair of 1,000-yard passers. Dutton, who began his career at Texas, was 222-of-334 (66.5 percent) for 2,750 yards and 22 touchdowns, with only six interceptions and was named Big West Offensive Player of the Year. Bennett completed 85-of-146 (58.2 percent) for 1,157 yards, 12 TDs and five picks.

The Wolf Pack did run the ball 48 percent of the time. Although he didn't start until the ninth game, sophomore Chris Lemon led the Pack in rushing (867 yards) and led the conference in all-purpose yards (1,604 total, 145.8 per game).

The ground attack received a blow when No. 1 running back Ernie Wilson dropped out of school in midseason after averaging 76.0 yards. Senior Alex Gresham took over and finished with 476 yards before suffering an ankle injury and giving way to Lemon.

Geoff Noisy, a junior, was named the team's offensive MVP although, with 98 receptions for 1,435 yards and nine touchdowns, he finished second to the departed Damond Wilkins.

Also returning is sophomore Trevor Insley (36 catches, 574 yards). Junior college transfer Nemoy Triplet's arrival was eagerly anticipated last year after he was Offensive Player of the Year at Diablo Valley J.C. in California in 1995. But Triplet tore up a knee before practice started and missed the season. Nevada has high hopes for incoming freshman Ryan Dennard, whose father, Preston, was a wide receiver in the NFL. Nevada routinely uses three wideouts.

Senior Matt Kelly will take over at tight end and could be pushed by junior college transfer Eric Johnson.

Three starters return to the offensive line, led by senior all-conference tackle Mike Edwards. The other holdovers are senior tackle Jason Sadler and senior guard Pat Freeman. Senior Soma Helu will take over at guard and senior Wade Platz is the center.

All four starters are back on the defensive line. Seniors George Jones and Aaron Lozano are the ends, with senior James Cannida, an all-conference pick, and senior Justin Tenpenny at the tackles.

The linebackers are another strength with Big West Defensive Player of the Year Deshone Myles and David Hairston, both seniors, returning. Myles won the Golden Helmet Award as the team's MVP. He has led the Wolf Pack in tackles as a freshman (138), sophomore (133) and junior (125) and is the career tackling leader. Sophomore Jim Farley is slated to move into the spot vacated by Mike Crawford, the second-leading tackler in 1996.

The secondary lost three starters plus a couple of backups. Returning is junior cornerback Don Morgan, the third-leading tackler. Sophomore Greg Oliver is the favorite at the other corner.

**20.5** Since 1993, Nevada leads the nation in total offense by an average of 20.5 yards per game. Florida State is second.

The safety positions are question marks with the loss of both starters and backups. Junior college transfers Kenny Jackson and Reggie Mitchell are the leading starting candidates.

Junior placekicker Damon Shea made some All-America teams after converting 20-of-22 field-goal attempts and 55-of-56 PATs. Senior punter Jason McLean averaged 40.0 yards a kick

Lemon returned 23 kickoffs for a 21.9-yard average, and Morgan ran back 36 punts at a 12.1 clip.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

WR 17 Greg Russell (Sr., 1); 88 David Burr (Fr., 0)
**T 63 Jason Sadler (Sr., 1)**; 75 Jeremy Cohen (Jr., 0)
G 77 Soma Helu (Sr., 1); 68 Ryan Scuffy (So., 0)
C 52 Wade Platz (Sr., 1); 66 Eric Harper (So., 0)
**G 76 Pat Freeman (Sr., 1)**; 59 Cameron Norcross (So., 0)
**T 79 Mike Edwards (Sr., 2)**; 62 Donny West (Sr., 1)
**TE 89 Matt Kelly (Sr., 3)**; 84 Nathan Allen (So., 0)
**QB 11 John Dutton (Sr., 1);** 16 Eric Bennett (Sr., 2)
RB 33 Chris Lemon (So, 1); 22 Alex Gresham (Sr., 1)
**FL 4 Geoff Noisy (Jr., 2)**; 81 Darin Higgins (So., 0)
**WR 87 Trevor Insley (Fr., 1)**; 2 Joby Bratcher (Jr., 0)
**K 14 Damon Shea (Jr., 2)**

### DEFENSE (6)

**DE 44 Aaron Lozano (Sr., 2)**; 49 Jace Hider (Jr., 1)
**DT 97 James Cannida (Sr., 3)**; 93 Rick Cross (So., 1)
**DT 95 Justin Tenpenny (Sr., 1);** 92 Tim Hubbard (Jr., 0)
**DE 56 George Jones (Sr., 1);** 40 George Brazil (Jr., 1)
LB 47 Jim Farley (So., 0; )54 Andrew Ghio (Jr., 1)
LB 92 Dan Rockwell (So., 0); 26 Brian Boccio (Sr., 1)
**LB 30 Deshone Myles (Sr., 3);** 90 David Hairston (Sr., 1)
**CB 31 Don Morgan (Jr., 2)**; 6 Omar Perkins (Jr., 0)
CB 23 Greg Oliver (So., 1); 20 Christian Broussard (Fr., 0)
SS 5 Kenny Jackson (Jr., 0); 18 Mac Carminer (Fr., 0)
FS 7 Reggie Mitchell (Jr. 0); 24 Dennison Dawson (Jr., 2)
**P 19 Jason McLean (Sr., 2)**

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

# Oregon Ducks

**Head Coach** .....**Mike Bellotti**
**1996 Record (Pac-10)**....**6–5 (3–5)**
**1997 Prediction** .....**8th Pac-10**
**Home Field**.....**Autzen Stadium (41,698)**

For two years, Oregon's players and fans had enjoyed sunshine, blue skies and warm weather on New Year's Day: at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena in 1995 and the Cotton Bowl in Dallas in 1996.

But last Jan. 1, there was little joy among the faithful as the Ducks were shut out of postseason competition. It was a lonely, miserable feeling.

Blake Spence

Brian Johnson

"Expectations of people have become high in Oregon, and that's OK," says coach Mike Bellotti. "It's not a problem unless we don't produce."

Oregon will have to mount its 1997 bowl drive with a new quarterback. Tony Graziani and backup Ryan Perry-Smith are gone, and the Ducks suddenly find themselves without an experienced signal-caller.

Only junior Jason Maas has ever taken a snap in the Pac-10. He'll get the first look, but everybody is watching junior college transfer Akili Smith, an All-American at Grossmont College last year. He may be the key to producing what Bellotti wants: a balanced offense.

Senior Saladin McCullough, a late signee last season from California's fertile junior college ranks, stepped into a veteran starting lineup and scored 15 touchdowns in an injury-shortened season. Five of those TDs and 223 yards came against an Arizona defense that had surrendered just 930 rushing yards in the eight preceding games.

A.J. Jelks, a power runner who can flatten safeties and cornerbacks, returns at fullback.

Senior Damon Griffin, a second-team All-Pac-10 selection, will share wideout duties with senior speedster Pat Johnson. Both he and Griffin will be pushed by sophomore Tony Hartley, the Ducks' second-leading receiver despite playing with a cracked bone in his wrist. Junior college transfers Donald Haynes and LaCorey Collins are new players in the mix.

The tight end is Blake Spence, with Jelks frequently moving over as the H-back or perhaps playing tight end himself while Eric Winn steps in at fullback.

Senior David Weber, a two-time all-academic Pac-10 athlete who has started 20 games at right tackle, will lead an essentially green line. Senior Seaton Daly will line up at center and can also play guard. Junior Stefan deVries has settled into the left tackle spot after playing both ways at times.

The guards are junior Michael Klews, a former starting tackle who has been hampered by knee problems the past two seasons, and junior college transfer Marco Aguirre.

End Desmond Byrd, a 300-pound senior, will anchor the defensive front. Byrd bench-presses 400 pounds and has the quickness to overcome the double-team blocks he'll see most of the season.

Caleb Smith is the other end, having earned three starts last season as a redshirt freshman. Also vying for playing time will be sophomore Richie Thomas and junior Leie Sualua. Sophomore nose tackle Darce Afuvai played extensively in '96.

Nearly everyone but Bellotti was tried at linebacker last fall. Juniors Ryan Klaasen and Chris Vandiver figure to start, but the coaches are intrigued by newcomer Jeff Simpson, a juco transfer from Kemper (Mo.) Military Academy.

Outside, only senior Matt Lofrano has played much. Sophomore Peter Sirmon started five games at inside linebacker but is being moved outside, where senior Jeff Branson will also get an opportunity.

Sure, Oregon rolled up 4,939 yards in total offense a year ago, but the Ducks surrendered 4,807, and 2,777 of those came through the air. Much of the secondary's spotty performance can be attributed to youth, and the unit has gotten younger with the defection of All-America cornerback Kenny Wheaton to the pros after his junior season.

**34.4** Oregon's 1996 scoring average, second-highest in the Pac-10. The Ducks gave up 32.4 points per game, however, which made things exciting around the league and was chiefly responsible for Oregon's 6–5 record.

Senior Jaiya Figueras, an aggressive former special teamer who made 28 tackles in the Ducks' last three games, is at free safety. Sophomores Chris Young, Dietrich Moore and Brandon McLemore will all be counted on in the secondary. McLemore and Young are returning starters. Junior Kevin Parker has taken over in one corner.

Junior Josh Bidwell improved his punting stats dramatically, becoming the first Duck in four years to average better than 40 yards per kick. Junior Joshua Smith is the placekicker.

Johnson should be the primary kick returner — he ran one back 95 yards for a touchdown against Stanford last fall.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

**SE** **83 Pat Johnson (Sr., 3);** 8 LaCorey Collins (Fr., 0)
**LT** 63 Stefan deVries (Jr., 1); 60 Matt Nichols (Sr., 0)
**LG** 74 Michael Klews (Jr., 1); 61 Mike Armendariz (Jr., 0)
**C** 68 Seaton Daly (Sr., 3); 66 Chad Normoyle (Jr., 0)
**RG** 69 Marco Aguirre (Jr., 0); 79 Paul Driver (So., 0)
**RT** **75 David Weber (Sr., 3);** 53 Josh Beckett (So., 0)
**TE** 82 Blake Spence (Sr., 3); 81 Jed Weaver (Jr., 1)
**QB** 12 Jason Maas (Jr., 1); 7 Akili Smith (Jr., 0)
**FB** 45 A.J. Jelks (Sr., 3); 31 Eric Winn (Sr., 3)
**TB** **28 Saladin McCullough (Sr., 1);** 6 Derien Latimer (So., 1)
**FL** **5 Damon Griffin (Sr., 3);** 2 Tony Hartley (So., 1)
**K** 88 Joshua Smith (Jr., 2); 37 Matt Brewer (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (5)

**DE** **99 Desmond Byrd (Sr., 3);** 86 Leie Sualua (Jr., 0)
**NT** 92 Darce Afuvai (So., 1); 86 Leie Sualua (Jr., 0)
**DE** 56 Caleb Smith (So., 1); 97 Richie Thomas So., 0)
**OLB** 80 Matt Lofrano (Sr., 2); 48 Saul Patu (Fr., 0)
**ILB** **39 Chris Vandiver (Jr., 1);** 34 Aaron Cheuvront (So., 0)
**ILB** **46 Ryan Klaasen (Jr., 2);** 41 Curtis Moore (Sr., 3)
**OLB** 44 Peter Sirmon (So., 1); 49 Jeff Branson (Sr., 2)
**CB** 24 Kevin Parker (Jr., 2); 3 Gary Barker (Fr., 0)
**CB** **9 Brandon McLemore (So., 1);** 1 M. Fletcher (So., 1)
**SS** 29 Dietrich Moore (So., 1); **16 Chris Young (So., 1)**
**FS** 22 Jaiya Figueras (Sr., 3); 4 Eric Edwards (Jr., 2)
**P** 40 Josh Bidwell (Jr., 2); 32 Josh Frankel (So., 0)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

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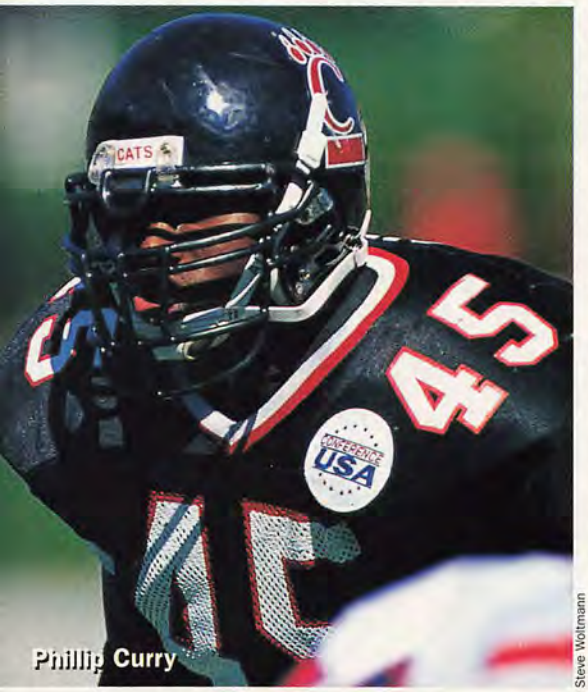
# Cincinnati Bearcats

**Head Coach** .....Rick Minter
**1996 Record (C-USA)** .....6–5 (2–3)
**1997 Prediction** .....3rd C-USA
**Home Field**.....Nippert Stadium (35,000)

Cincinnati coach Rick Minter has a simple plan for this season. He will have a massive backfield line up behind a gargantuan offensive line and then commence to pound the ball through opposing defenses. Nothing fancy. Nothing elaborate. Just good old-fashioned, smash-mouth football.

"Our goal is to rank in the Top 10 nationally in rushing," says Minter, who has guided the Bearcats to back-to-back winning seasons, something not seen in the Queen City since the 1981 and '82 seasons.



Phillip Curry

Steve Woltmann

Last fall, the 6–5 Bearcats averaged a respectable 181.4 yards rushing (32nd nationally). Minter says he wants that per-game figure to hit 230. And with the five top rushers returning (four of whom weigh 220 pounds or more, including scrambling junior quarterback Chad Plummer), that mark is within reach.

This is the year Plummer emerges. He likes to motor upfield and is adept at doing so. In terms of passing, however, he needs work. He completed 102-of-198 pass attempts (51.5 percent) for 1,335 yards, seven touchdowns and eight interceptions. His efficiency rating was a modest 111.7, due, in part, to his occasional tendency to force the ball into coverage. Improvement in this area is expected.

How big are the Bearcat ball carriers? Check this: Senior fullback Landon Smith is 5–11, 240; junior tailback Orlando Smith, back after missing most of last season with a broken ankle, is 6–1, 247; senior Daryl Royal, who can play either position, is 6–2, 223. Royal, who replaced Orlando Smith, registered a 5.1-yards-per-carry average but was slowed by an injury and yielded his starting spot in Game 8 to then-freshman Robert Cooper, the small fry of the batch at 5–11, 197.

Junior Cornelius Bonner averaged 19.0 yards on 11 catches, but there is no other proven split receiver. However, redshirt freshman Jason Collins-Baker and junior college arrival John Powell are wide receivers Minter feels could help the 'Cats.

Junior tight end Josh Anderson (13.5 yards per catch) is a capable receiver and a strong blocker.

The offensive line is a run-blocking group of young goliaths. As a group, the top six linemen average 6–5, 310. The anchor is All-C-USA senior left tackle Jason Fabini, the team's best pass blocker and NFL material at 6–7, 320. Senior left guard Joel Dolinski was a second-team, all-league pick and junior center Brian Uhl honorable mention. They can rotate positions. Sophomore right guard Ken Biggs benefited from the redshirting of massive Matt Knutson (6–6, 369). Minter says Knutson will see considerable minutes. Senior right tackle Pierre Brilliant may be a tad slow but he's 6–8, 325.

Minter incorporates a standard 4–3 defense, and three starting linemen return, keyed by senior defensive end Derrick Ransom, who registered six sacks and 11 tackles for loss a year ago. Senior John Kobalka mans one tackle spot with junior Kevin Ward at the other. Kobalka will continue to receive backup help from senior Fred Ward.

The other defensive end spot is a concern. Juniors Percy Evans and David Jackson are competent players, but look for junior-college transfer Ted Grubb to make an immediate impact.

Seniors Brad Jackson and Phillip Curry and junior Hassan Champion were the most productive linebacker combo in the league last fall and should repeat that feat in 1997. Curry, who plays in the middle, moves well laterally and should lead the team in total tackles and tackles for loss for a third straight year.

Junior middle linebacker Rob Lucas is the top reserve and a quality playmaker.

**2.2%** The percentage of Cincinnati's metropolitan population (1.6 million) needed to fill 35,000-seat Nippert Stadium, a manageable percentage for UC athletics officials looking to boost attendance.

The secondary needs help. Three starters are missing and senior cornerback Artrell Hawkins, though an intelligent and versatile back (he can play all four positions), is not blessed with great speed.

Minter expects junior college arrivals Eric Harper (strong safety) and Tinker Keck (free safety) to play from Day One. And don't overlook junior cornerback Don McKnight.

Senior placekicker Eric Richards is a first-team all-conference pick. However, C-USA is not known for its kickers, as Richards' 1-of-8 success rate for field goals of 40 yards or more suggests. Senior Doug Johnson will handle punting chores.

No return man of significance from a year ago will be available to the Bearcats. Cooper may be called upon to help here.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

**WR** 84 Cornelius Bonner (Jr., 1); 87 Jeff Burrow (So., 1)
**LT** **67 Jason Fabini (Sr., 3)**; 76 Chris Bell (So., 0)
**LG** **61 Joel Dolinski (Sr., 3)**; 63 Vince Byrd (Jr., 0)
**C** **75 Brian Uhl (Jr., 2)**; 70 Jason Lisek (So., 0)
**RG** **66 Ken Biggs (So., 1)**; 71 Matt Knutson (So., 1)
**RT** **78 Pierre Brilliant (Sr., 2)**; 79 Don Scheithe (So., 1)
**TE** **88 Josh Anderson (Jr., 2)**; 80 Ashley Hunt (Fr., 0)
**QB** **4 Chad Plummer (Jr., 2)**; 16 Brent Petrus (Sr., 2)
**FB** **36 Landon Smith (Sr., 1)**; 49 Eric Beal (Jr., 2)
**RB** **38 Daryl Royal (Sr., 3)**; 20 Orlando Smith (Jr., 1)
**WR** 83 Jason Collins-Baker (Fr., 0); 2 John Powell (Jr., 0)
**K** **12 Eric Richards (Sr., 3)**

### DEFENSE (6)

**DE** 92 Percy Evans (Jr., 2); 94 Ted Grubb (Jr., 0)
**DT** **99 John Kobalka (Sr., 3)**; 55 Fred Ward (Sr., 1)
**DT** 77 Kevin Ward (Jr., 2); 90 Deron Savage (Jr., 1)
**DE** **95 Derrick Ransom (Sr., 3)**; 93 David Jackson (Jr., 2)
**OLB** **48 Hassan Champion (Jr., 2)**; 39 Eddie Johnson (Fr., 0)
**MLB** **45 Phillip Curry (Sr., 3)**; 41 Rob Lucas (Jr., 2)
**OLB** **3 Brad Jackson (Sr., 3)**; 1 Lowery Cole (Sr., 1)
**CB** 19 Don McKnight (Jr., 2); 35 Freddy Smith (Fr., 0)
**CB** **21 Artrell Hawkins, (Sr., 3)**; 40 Shawn Ferguson (Jr., 1)
**SS** 6 Eric Harper (Jr., 0); 5 Jermaine Sturkie (Sr., 3)
**FS** 9 Tinker Keck (Jr., 0); 46 Gerard Brayboy (Jr., 1)
**P** 43 Doug Johnson (Sr., 0)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* **BOLD** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

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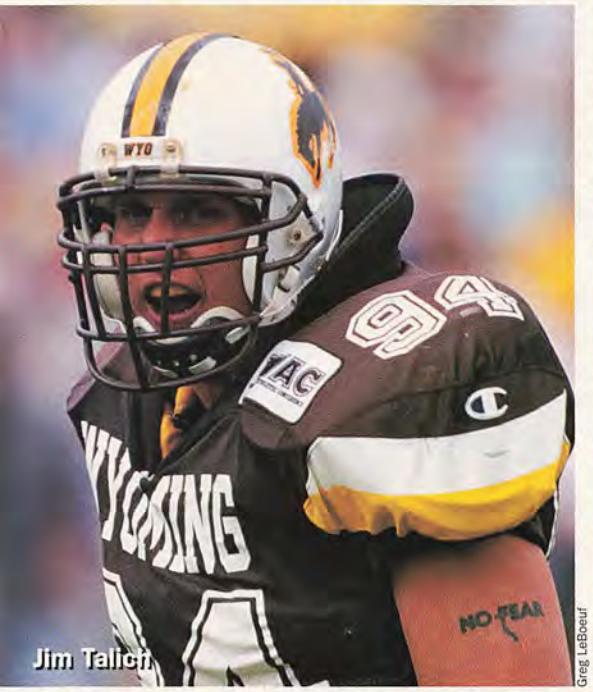
# Wyoming Cowboys

**Head Coach** .....Dana Dimel
**1996 Record (WAC)** .....10–2 (7–1)
**1997 Prediction** .....4th WAC Pacific
**Home Field**.....War Memorial Stadium (33,500)

Dana Dimel worked as Kansas State's offensive coordinator, but he must have peeked at the Wildcats' defense, too.

On Dimel's arrival on the Laramie campus, he immediately started building a defense in the K-State style: fast, aggressive and athletic.

"We'll take our best speed and put it on defense," Dimel says. "We have good players; we just had to move them to where we'll have the most speed at every position."



Jim Talich

Greg LeBoeuf

Former coach Joe Tiller left little room for improvement on his way to Purdue. The Cowboys went 10–2, losing to Brigham Young in overtime in the WAC Championship Game. Dimel's staff will have to hustle to match that showing. For one thing, Colorado replaces Western Michigan on the non-conference schedule.

Josh Wallwork, who graduated, directed the country's No. 1 passing offense last season, and Dimel acknowledges that lack of experience at quarterback is a major concern. Yet he's convinced that senior Jeremy Silcox — from the same California junior college as Wallwork — is a comparable player. Dimel also is impressed with the arm strength of senior John Davis.

Dimel is leaving at least a couple of the sprinters on offense. Junior tailback Marques Brigham is the fastest Cowboy of them all, running 40 yards in 4.3 seconds. Senior fullback Mike Patolo will benefit from the switch to more of a two-back offense.

Wyoming loses Marcus Harris and his 109 receptions of last season and two other starting receivers, and Dimel pronounces this position the strength of the team.

Why? Speed, naturally. The leader of the group is sophomore Wendell Montgomery, who's big and fast enough at 203 pounds. Junior Brahms Derenoncourt and sophomore Marcus Brunson can also run — especially Brunson.

The tight end will become more prominent in Wyoming's offense — even two or three at a time. Junior Julian Hooker came to Laramie as a 180-pound receiver, and now he's a 236-pound tight end with skills. Junior Kirby Drube and converted, sophomore defensive end Sterling Kihei also fit into the plans.

In the offensive line, senior left tackle Rob Bohlinger, junior right guard Jeff Smith and senior center Jay Korth are proven veterans who helped the Cowboys lead the WAC in total offense. Seniors Shane Glasser and Demetrius Hamilton will likely man the other two positions.

Defense was not a major issue last season at Wyoming. Dimel wants to do something about the defense's 439.5-yard average and, after watching BYU struggle for three quarters against Kansas State in the Cotton Bowl, he is confident the pressure-oriented style can slow down WAC teams.

Dimel started the makeover by moving senior end Stuart Hanson to tackle. Senior Jeff Leonard, who recorded eight sacks last season, remains at end. Senior tackle Mike Graham and junior end Jay Wojtkiewicz are the new starters.

Amid all the movement, senior Jim Talich is not going anywhere. He hardly fits Dimel's need for speed, but he is invaluable in the middle, having averaged 11½ tackles a game as a junior.

Junior Brian Brown, however, does have good speed at linebacker, where converted running backs Arlen Smith, a redshirt freshman, and junior Josh Amundson are now stationed.

The high-pressure defensive scheme won't work without fast, dependable cornerbacks who can cover receivers one-on-one. Robbie Duncan, who started at free safety as a freshman last season, is moving to cornerback. At the other corner, senior Je'Ney Jackson is even faster.

**6** The number of field goals kicked by Cory Wedel in last season's opener against Idaho. The Cowboys needed every one in a 40–38 victory that might have saved their whole year.

Senior Brian Lee led the WAC with eight interceptions at strong safety and now is the free safety. Senior Greg Van Leer, sophomore Trent Gamble and junior college transfer Derrick Browning will join Lee in the safety rotation.

Wyoming's offense was too productive for Aron Langley and just right for Cory Wedel. Langley, a junior, averaged 45.7 yards a punt but lacked enough attempts to qualify for the NCAA statistics. What's more, only eight of Langley's 39 punts were returned.

Wedel, a senior, was good on 20 field goals and 48 extra points, ranking first in scoring among WAC kickers.

Brigham and Jackson have handled kickoff and punt returns, and other speedy candidates should surface.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (3)

**WR** 81 Brahms Derenoncourt (Jr., 2); 1 Willie King (So., 0)
**LT** **55 Rob Bohlinger (Sr., 2)**; 72 Nate Selk (So., 1)
**LG** 63 Demetrius Hamilton (Sr., 0); 66 Terry Staggs (Jr., 0)
**C** **79 Jay Korth (Sr., 3)**; 60 Jason Wilhelm (So., 0)
**RG** **51 Jeff Smith (Jr., 1)**; 67 Dan Delcorio (So., 1)
**RT** 71 Shane Glasser (Sr., 3); 75 Trifon Demos (So., 1)
**TE** 6 Julian Hooker (Jr., 0); 86 Kirby Drube (Jr., 2)
**QB** 3 Jeremy Silcox (Sr., 1); 15 John Davis (Sr., 1)
**FB** 24 Mike Patolo (Sr., 1); 38 Donovan McComb (Sr., 1)
**RB** 34 Marques Brigham (Jr., 2); 7 Tim Beasley (So., 1)
**WR** 83 Wendell Montgomery (So., 1); 18 Kofi Shuck (So., 1)
**K** **35 Cory Wedel (Sr., 3)**

### DEFENSE (6)

**DE** 37 Jay Wojtkiewicz (Jr., 0); 88 Jerel Haynes (So., 1)
**DT** **99 Stuart Hanson (Sr., 3)**; 93 Brian Van Emmerik (So., 1)
**DT** 95 Mike Graham (Sr., 2); 80 Gerald Pyle (Fr., 0)
**DE** **90 Jeff Leonard (Sr., 1)**; 97 Jason Dreessen (So., 1)
**LB** **13 Brian Brown (Jr., 1)**; 59 Micah Christensen (Sr., 0)
**LB** **94 Jim Talich (Sr., 3)**; 4 Arlen Smith (Fr., 0)
**LB** 29 Josh Amundson (Jr., 1); 33 Pat Hirsch (Fr., 0)
**CB** 32 Je'Ney Jackson (Sr., 3); 9 Adrian Boston (Fr., 0)
**CB** **22 Robbie Duncan (So., 1)**; 27 J.P. Williams (Jr., 1)
**SS** 20 Trent Gamble (So., 1); 2 Derrick Browning (Jr., 0)
**FS** **45 Brian Lee (Sr., 3)**; 21 Greg Van Leer (Sr., 2)
**P** **41 Aron Langley (Jr., 1)**

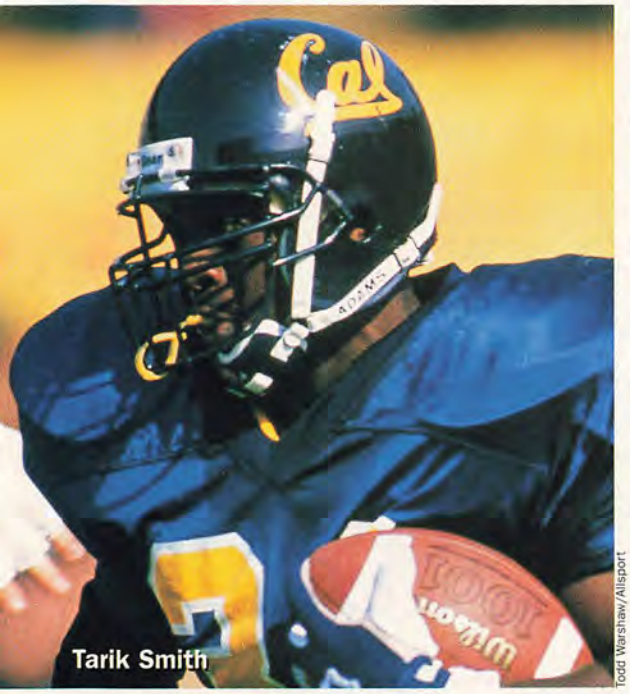
*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# California Golden Bears

**Head Coach .....Tom Holmoe**
**1996 Record (Pac-10)....6–6 (3–5)**
**1997 Prediction .....9th Pac-10**
**Home Field.....Memorial Stadium (74,909)**

Although new head coach Tom Holmoe is the model of stability, California football is fraught with uncertainty.

The sudden departure of popular coach Steve Mariucci after one season stunned the players. And, besides having their third head coach in three years and losing their final four games in 1996, the Golden Bears face a tougher schedule this fall. And they have lost their best player, quarterback Pat Barnes.


Tarik Smith

Todd Warshaw/Allsport

Untested Justin Vedder, a junior college transfer, will replace Barnes. Vedder is smart and resourceful — "sort of a left-handed Jake Plummer," says Holmoe.

The concern is Vedder's size. He's just 6–0 and doesn't scramble much, and learning the complicated West Coast offense takes time, but his arm and leadership skills are strong.

The tailback position is in good hands if senior Tarik Smith's knee is recovered from a torn anterior cruciate ligament. Junior Brandon Willis, too small to carry a heavy load at tailback, will be moved around the offense. The hope is to get him into the open field.

Senior fullback Marc Vera catches passes, but coaches hope junior college transfer Mike Freeman can be the powerful lead blocker they need.

Though he lacks blazing speed, senior all-conference wideout Bobby Shaw runs precise routes and has sure hands, and led the conference in receptions. Junior Dameane Douglas can catch passes over the middle.

The concern is tight end, since All-American Tony Gonzales took his game to the NFL. True freshman Corey Smith and junior college transfer A.J. Kunkle lead a wide-open field.

The offensive line is much better at pass blocking than run blocking, and opening holes will be a problem again. Cal should be adequate up the middle with juniors Jeremy Newberry at center and John Welbourn at guard, assuming Welbourn's ACL tear is healed. Senior Drake Parker is back at the other guard spot.

Inexperience at tackle could make the Bears susceptible to the pass rush, an uncomfortable situation with a new quarterback. Junior Kevin Swillis has been moved from defense and could be a starter at tackle. So could senior Brian Shields, who struggled as a backup in '96.

The defensive line should be the most improved area on the team. It had better be, because the Bears couldn't stop anybody last season.

Two newcomers, Notre Dame transfer John McLaughlin, a junior, and highly regarded incoming freshman Andre Carter are the new ends and have the speed to provide a needed pass rush. Senior Chris Easley or sophomore Jeremiah Parker could begin the season as a starter.

The anchor of the defensive front is senior tackle Brandon Whiting, a dominating player and pro prospect. Jerry DeLoach, a force late last season as a redshirt freshman, is scheduled to be the nose guard.

The Bears lack a menacing linebacker, vital to the attacking defense new defensive coordinator Lyle Sentencich prefers, though all three starters return. Sophomore Matt Beck, a budding star, may move from the inside to an outside linebacker spot, while senior Andre Rhodes moves from the outside in. Sophomore Nate Geldermann has the will and the size but also has bad knees and little speed.

Cal is pinning its hopes for an improved defense on junior college transfers Albert Dorsey and Keith Miller, who could move into the lineup with Beck. Both are quick and like to hit, but neither is particularly big, so Cal still risks being outmuscled.

Junior Derrick Gardner is the team's best defensive back and will move back to cornerback after playing safety last year.

**3 & 17** The Bears lost three fumbles in the first five games of 1996 and won all five. They fumbled the ball away 17 times over the final seven games, winning only one.

The other corner, senior Kato Serwanga, is physical and looked like an all-conference player in some games but seemed lost in others. Further inconsistency could see him replaced by juco transfer Aundrae Harris, who has the potential to become a defensive starter immediately.

Cal does not have a dominant player at safety. The likely starters, junior Marquis Smith and sophomore Pete Destefano, have the size but don't close on the ball well.

Holmoe claims the graduation of kicker-punter Ryan Longwell is Cal's biggest loss.The pressure is on JC kicker Tim Wolleck and redshirt freshman punter Nick Harris to minimize the damage.

The Bears will be adequate returning kicks, with sophomore Deltha O'Neal, a backup tailback, offering big-play potential.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

| | |
|---|---|
| WR | **3 Bobby Shaw (Sr., 3)**; 6 Kofi Nartey (Sr., 3) |
| LT | 75 Kevin Swillis (Jr., 2); 71 Kevin Doherty (So., 0) |
| LG | **64 John Welbourn (Jr., 2)**; 56 Yauger Williams (Jr., 2) |
| C | **62 Jeremy Newberry (Jr., 2)**; 63 Caleb Brown (Jr., 2) |
| RG | **78 Drake Parker (Sr., 3)**; 63 Caleb Brown (Jr., 2) |
| RT | 65 Brian Shields (Sr., 3); 71 Kevin Doherty (So., 0) |
| TE | Corey Smith (Fr., 0); A.J. Kunkle (Jr., 0) |
| QB | Justin Vedder (Jr., 0); 7 Terry Hess (Fr., 0) |
| FB | **41 Marc Vera (Sr., 3)** 33 Rudy Mattox (Jr., 2) |
| TB | **34 Tarik Smith (Sr., 3); 2 Brandon Willis (Jr., 2)** |
| WR | 81 Dameane Douglas (Jr., 2); Bruce Pierre (Jr., 0) |
| K | Tim Wolleck (Jr., 0) |

### DEFENSE (9)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | **95 Jeremiah Parker So., 1)**; Andre Carter (Fr., 0) |
| DT | **98 Jerry DeLoach (So., 1)**; 67 George Roberts (Sr., 2) |
| DT | **48 Brandon Whiting (Sr., 3)**; 96 John Romero (So., 0) |
| DE | 33 John McLaughlin (Jr., 0); 97 Chris Easley (Sr., 3) |
| LB | **99 Nate Geldermann (So., 1)**; Albert Dorsey (Jr., 0) |
| LB | **59 Matt Beck (So., 1)**; Keith Miller (Jr., 0) |
| LB | **11 Andre Rhodes (Sr., 3)**; 58 Mawuko Tugbenyoh (So., 1) |
| CB | **31 Derrick Gardner (Jr., 2)**; Aundrae Harris (Jr., 0) |
| CB | **24 Kato Serwanga (Sr., 1)**; Aundrae Harris (Jr., 0) |
| SS | **9 Marquis Smith (Jr., )**; 1 David Burnside (Jr., 1) |
| FS | 20 Pete Destefano (So., 1) |
| P | 89 Nick Harris (Fr., 0) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Miami Redskins

**Head Coach** .....Randy Walker
**1996 Record (MAC)** .....6–5 (6–2)
**1997 Prediction** .....1st MAC East
**Home Field**.....Fred C. Yeager Stadium (30,012)

There were three distinct seasons for the Miami Redskins in 1996. First came a 2–0 start, followed by a 2–5 stretch, capped by a 2–0 finish.

It amounted to an overall 6–5 record, including 6–2 and a second-place tie in the Mid-American Conference.

Along the way Miami tied a school record by scoring nine touchdowns in a 64–6 season-opening rout of Kent. In that game, the Redskins had a 200-yard rusher and a 100-yard rusher in the same contest for the first time. Ty King gained 205 yards and Travis Prentice added 102.

Sam Ricketts

Miami University

Prentice, a sophomore, didn't start a game, yet finished with 601 yards and 12 touchdowns — fifth best in Miami history — and a 4.9-yards per-carry average. He joins seven offensive starters and seven defensive regulars. Prentice has big shoes to fill because King rushed for 1,065 yards and averaged 96.8. Senior fullback Jeremy Adkins started the last eight games, but carried the ball only once all season for no gain.

The offense revolves around senior quarterback Sam Ricketts, a strong, mobile two-year starter who ranks first in school history in touchdown passes (28), third in completions (296), fourth in passing yards (3,404) and sixth in completion percentage (52.8).

Ricketts saves his best for MAC opponents. In his last 10 conference games, he has thrown 15 touchdown passes with just two interceptions and has completed 60 percent of his passes.

Perhaps the toughest hole to fill is at wide receiver where first-team All-MAC pick and team MVP Tremayne Banks has graduated. Last year, Banks set school records for receptions (52), career receptions (118), career receiving yards (1,622) and punt return yards (152).

This year's receiving corps will be led by junior wide receiver Jay Hall, who caught 24 passes for 303 yards. Battling for the other wide-out position are sophomores Trevor Gaylor and Nate Sexton, junior Garrett Purdy and senior Alonzo Edmonds. They combined for three receptions last year. Senior tight end Damian Vaughn caught 13 by himself.

Three offensive line starters are back, led by senior guard Mike Bird, a two-time All-MAC first-team selection. Returning with him are senior tackle Mark Sroka and junior guard Ted Stec.

All-MAC center Matt Cravens will be hard to replace, but senior backup Matt Kordos returns. Senior tackle Brian Vest started one game.

The defense led the MAC and finished ninth nationally in scoring defense, yielding just 15.3 points a game and as many as 30 points only once, that in a three-overtime 30–23 loss to Cincinnati.

Heading the unit is junior outside linebacker JoJuan Armour, a second-team all-conference pick last season who was second on the team with 98 tackles. The other two members of a stellar linebacking corps, Dee Osborne and Kenyon Harper, have graduated.

Three of four defensive linemen return: senior end Chad Brightman and senior tackles Jason Havens and Patrice Morgan.

Miami's secondary led the MAC and ranked second nationally in pass efficiency defense after ranking No. 1 in that category in 1995.

The Redskins lost cornerback Cleon Plummer, but senior cornerback Jamie Taylor returns after a season of 53 tackles and seven pass deflections that earned him first-team all-conference honors. The other returning starters are senior strong safety Jason Druso and sophomore free safety Bryan McCullough, who took over in midseason.

Junior placekicker John Scott was 10-of-12 on field goals and 18-of-19 on PATs. But punter Jason Cheney graduated with the second-best career average in school history (41.5) after averaging 42.0 last season. So did his backup, leaving a big hole.

**120.3** The number of passing yards allowed per game in 1996; ranking the Redskins second in the nation behind Ohio State.

The departed Banks handled 29 of 31 punt returns and 19 of 26 kickoffs. Junior Jay Baker and sophomore Geoffrey Bowman are the leading candidates to replace him.

The schedule is not easy with visits to Army and Virginia Tech smack in the middle ot the conference slate. But don't forget that Miami was the only team to defeat Big Ten champion Northwestern during the 1995 regular season.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

| | |
|---|---|
| WR | **81 Jay Hall (Jr., 2)**; 14 Nate Sexton (So., 1) |
| LT | **71 Mark Sroka (Sr., 2)**; 88 Alex Sulfsted (Fr., 0) |
| LG | **72 Mike Bird (Sr., 2)**; 66 Chris Huelsman (So., 0) |
| C | 60 Matt Kordos (Sr., 1); 91 Bob Beinecke (So., 0) |
| RG | **67 Ted Stec (Jr., 2)**; 74 Josh Romberg (So., 0) |
| RT | 73 Brian Vest (Sr., 2); 79 Matt Payne (Fr., ) |
| TE | **83 Damian Vaughn (Sr., 3)**; 86 Mike Sullivan (Fr., 0) |
| QB | **16 Sam Ricketts (Sr., 3)**; 6 Mike Bath (Fr., 0) |
| FB | **31 Jeremy Adkins (Sr., 3)**; 45 Dwayne Hall (Jr., 1) |
| TB | 41 Travis Prentice (So., 1); 24 Geoffrey Bowman (So., 1) |
| WR | 49 Trevor Gaylor (So., 1); 29 Garrett Purdy (Jr., 1) |
| K | **7 John Scott (Jr., 1)**; 94 Kevin Tymitz (So., 0) |

### DEFENSE (7)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | **50 Chad Brightman (Sr., 3)**; 21 Andy Martin (Sr., 3) |
| DT | **97 Patrice Morgan (Sr., 2)**; 99 James Bratcher (So., 1) |
| DT | **93 Jason Havens (Sr., 3)**; 62 Corey Estell (So., 0) |
| DE | 96 Jason Simmons (Jr., 2); 98 Andy Aracri (Fr., 0) |
| LB | **35 JoJuan Amour (Jr., 2)**; 46 Dustin Cohen (So., 1) |
| LB | 48 Josh Lubin (Jr., 0); 52 Drew Purcell (Jr., 2) |
| LB | 43 Joe Palcic (Sr., 3); 51 Mike Montgomery Fr., 0) |
| CB | **2 Jamie Taylor (Sr., 3)**; 15 Demarrio Jones (Fr., 0) |
| CB | 30 Jeff Cheeks (Sr., 3); 31 Brandon Godsey (Fr., 0) |
| SS | **26 Jason Druso (Sr., 3)**; 23 Artie Shaw (Sr., 3) |
| FS | **33 Bryan McCullough (So., 1)**; 17 Jay Barker (Jr., 2) |
| P | 39 Kent McCullough (Fr., 0) |

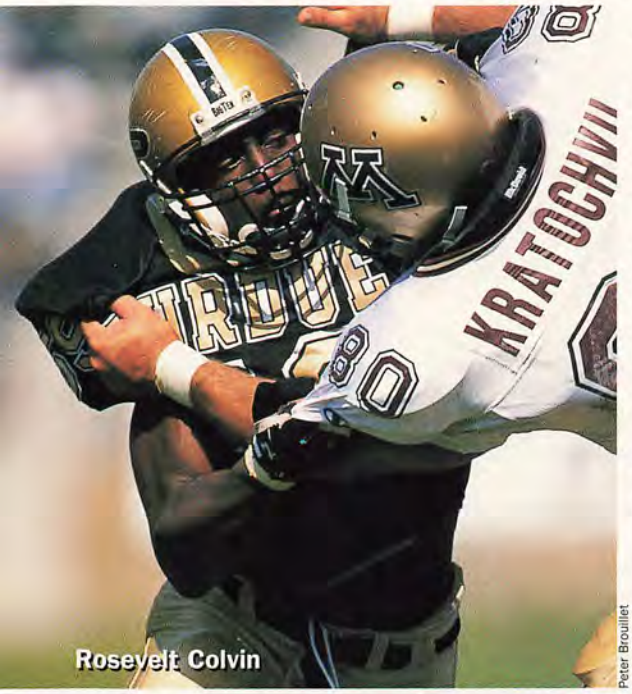
*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Purdue Boilermakers

**Head Coach .....Joe Tiller**
**1996 Record (Big 10) ....3–8 (2–6)**
**1997 Prediction .....8th Big 10**
**Home Field.....Ross-Ade Stadium (67,861)**

It has been just more than a decade since Joe Tiller was on the Purdue staff as defensive coordinator, and little has changed. The Boilermakers still haven't had a winning season, and with the exception of two years, they have not finished higher than the bottom third of the Big Ten.

Tiller has returned to Purdue as head coach, and his first and most important change was from a two-back to a one-back offense.



Rosevelt Colvin

Peter Brouillet

Offense starts with the quarterback, and Tiller is not one for going out on a limb and testing the untested.

Senior John Reeves has the physical attributes Tiller likes; he's 6–4, 217 pounds and he is a physical player. Reeves started five games during the middle of last season, threw for 772 yards and six touchdowns and was the third-best rusher on the team.

The other candidate is senior Billy Dicken, a scrambler who has been unable to avoid season-ending injuries.

Senior Edwin Watson, a 220-pound power back who is among the team's fastest players (4.49 in the 40), has posted 1,593 career rushing yards. The starting fullback in '96 after a year at tailback, Watson is tailor-made for the new offensive scheme. Also returning is senior Kendall Matthews, starting tailback and second-leading rusher a year ago.

Tiller may have to do some experimenting at wide receiver. Senior Willie Tillman will be the only wideout with considerable experience. Tillman is rangy and quick with big-play ability. He had 40 receptions for 557 yards and two touchdowns.

Sophomore Mike Hawthorne entered school as a defensive back, but he may find his niche as a receiver. He is a gifted athlete with tremendous acceleration, and Tiller will make a decision in the fall whether or not to move him to offense.

Tiller says there will be more emphasis on the tight end, and he is thrilled about the return of senior Jon Blackman, who did not play last year because of an off-field incident. Senior Brandon Jewell, last year's starter, also returns.

Senior left tackle Mark Fischer is one of four returning starters in the offensive line. Brian Nicley, the other senior returnee, is back at center. Two sophomores, Nick Sweeney and Wayne Finchum, should regain their starting jobs at right tackle and left guard respectively. The right guard could be either senior Dan Maly or redshirt freshman Chukky Okobi.

Junior defensive end Rosevelt Colvin may be on the small side at 6–3, 240, but he overcomes that with athleticism, aggressiveness and intensity. Colvin tied for third in the conference with 18 tackles for loss and led the team with six sacks.

The tackles are veteran seniors Leo Perez and Greg Smith. Right end is up for grabs between junior Chris Zurba and sophomore David Nugent.

Two-time Butkus Award candidate Chike Okeafor is the only returning linebacker starter. Tiller has big plans for the 6–5, 245-pound senior, who was third on the team with 85 tackles and is the Boilermakers' most experienced player with 30 starts. "He could be better than what he's been," Tiller says.

Junior Noble Jones and sophomores Nick Zitelli and Ray Lee will contend for the other starting assignments.

The Boilermaker secondary appears airtight, with three of four starters returning. Seniors Jamel Coleman and Derrick Brown and junior Willie Burroughs have combined for 66 starts, 450 tackles and 15 interceptions over the last three years.

Sophomores Willie Washington and Lamar Conard, or the aforementioned Hawthorne, if he's not playing offense, are available in the other corner. Hawthorne is also getting a look at safety.

**12** The number of consecutive losing seasons the Boilermakers have endured since going 7–5 in 1984. Purdue's record is 40–88–4 with no bowl invites during this stretch.

Brown led the team with 102 tackles and had four interceptions with 80 yards in returns, including a 59-yard touchdown.

The most bruising hitter is Burroughs, the strong safety known to his teammates as "The Hit Man." Burroughs notched 56 tackles last season, including two sacks.

The Boilermakers had two-man rotations handling the kicking and punting duties. Sophomore Danny Rogers likely will be the punter after averaging 39 yards, although junior Brandon Kaser averaged 39.6.

Sophomore placekicker Shane Ryan made four of six field-goal attempts and six of eight extra points. Senior Chris Arnce made only one field goal in five tries.

Free safety Brown was the top punt returner, and junior Curtis Taylor is back to handle kickoff returns.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

**WR** 1 Donald Winston (So., 1); 20 Chris Daniels (So., 1)
**LT** **54 Mark Fischer (Sr., 3)**; 79 Chad Manning (Sr., 1)
**LG** **74 Wayne Finchum (So., 1);** 56 Chukky Okobi (Fr., 0)
**C** **78 Brian Nicley (Sr., 3);** 63 Jim Niedrach (So., 0)
**RG** 76 Dan Maly (Sr.,2); 56 Chukky Okobi (Fr., 0)
**RT** **52 Nick Sweeney (So., 1);** 73 David Cohen (So., 0)
**TE** 84 John Blackman (Sr., 2); **81 Brandon Jewell (Sr., 2)**
**QB** **3 John Reeves (Sr., 2)**; 12 Billy Dicken (Sr., 3)
**FB** **36 Edwin Watson (Sr., 3)**; 16 Eric Haddad (Jr., 2)
**TB** **43 Kendall Matthews (Sr., 3)**; 35 Lee Johnson (Jr., 2)
**WR** **5 Willie Tillman (Sr., 3)**; 6 Isaac Jones (Jr., 2)
**K** **96 Shane Ryan (So., 1)**; 17 Chris Arnce (Sr., 1)

### DEFENSE (6)

**DE** **59 Rosevelt Colvin (Jr., 2)**; 49 Chukie Nwokorie (Jr., 2)
**DT** 97 Greg Smith (Sr., 3); 71 Anthony Gutwein (Jr., 1)
**DT** **98 Leo Perez (Sr., 3);** 71 Anthony Gutwein (Jr., 1)
**DE** 47 Chris Zurba (Jr., 2); 82 David Nugent (So., 1)
**LB** **34 Chike Okeafor (Sr., 3)**; 39 Nick Zitelli (So., 1)
**LB** 57 Ray Lee (So., 1); 28 Mike Rose (So., 1)
**LB** 32 Noble Jones (Jr., 2); 40 Willie Fells (Jr., 1)
**CB** 27 Willie Washington (So., 1); 22 Lamar Conard (So., 1)
**CB** **14 Jamel Coleman (Sr., 2)**; 21 Tommy Triplett (Jr., 1)
**SS** **23 Willie Burroughs (Jr., 2)**; 10 Lee Brush (Sr., 3)
**FS** **2 Derrick Brown (Sr., 3);** 11 Mike Hawthorne (So., 1)
**P** **26 Danny Rogers (So., 1)**; 92 Brandon Kaser (Jr., 1)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

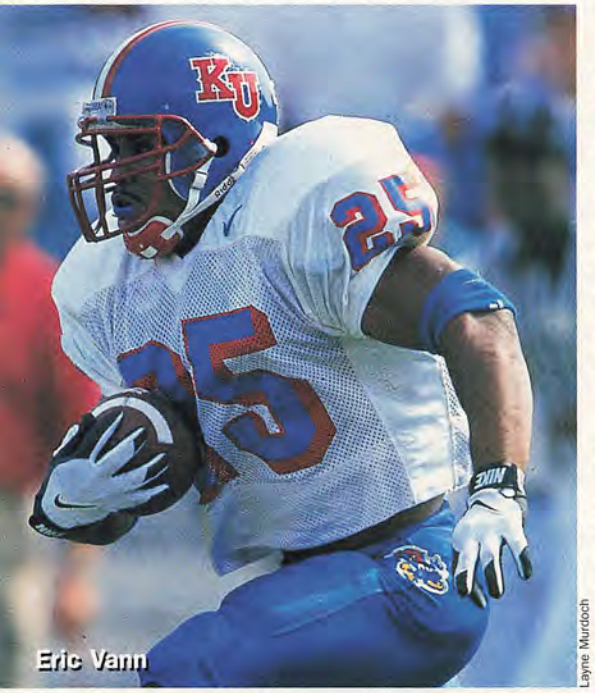
# Kansas Jayhawks

**Head Coach** .....Terry Allen
**1996 Record (Big 12)** ....4–7 (2–6)
**1997 Prediction** .....5th Big 12 North
**Home Field**.....Memorial Stadium (50,250)

In early December, Glen Mason said he was happy at Kansas. By the end of December, he was the head coach at Minnesota and Terry Allen was the Jayhawks' head coach.

Allen, head coach at Northern Iowa for eight seasons, also had been a candidate for the Minnesota job.

There doesn't seem to be much reason for optimism about the upcoming season. The Jayhawks' best runner, receiver, quarterback and defender of a year ago have completed their eligibility. Plus, their best offensive lineman, Cleve Roberts, transferred.


Eric Vann

Layne Murdoch

Even so, Allen is optimistic. He must rebuild an offense that will avoid goose eggs on the scoreboard, and his offensive philosophy is based on the pass.

"We are big play-action people," he says.

Senior Matt Johner, a part-time starter a year ago, is the most experienced of the quarterback candidates. He threw 10 touchdown passes and went 13 consecutive quarters (134 passes) without throwing an interception.

Johner's experience notwithstanding, the consensus is that junior Akili Roberson will have to develop quickly if Kansas is to be successful on offense. Allen will coach the quarterbacks.

The departure of June Henley, who rushed for 1,349 yards and 17 touchdowns, has left a considerable void. Senior Eric Vann, a distant second to Henley in rushing (a mere 176 yards) last season, leads the returnees. Junior John Macklin, sophomore Paul Davis and redshirt freshman Greg Davis are unproven but eager.

The Jayhawks have speed at wide receiver, but sophomore John Gordon is the only proven pass catcher. He was fourth on the team in receptions, with 16 for 240 yards and two touchdowns. Sophomore Eric Patterson is athletic but untested, as is sophomore Michael Chandler.

Junior Brian Gray, who has caught one pass (good for a touchdown), is the only experienced tight end, a position at which a redshirt or true freshman could emerge.

Allen has assigned two assistants to the offensive line. Junior Justin Glasgow, who came to Kansas as a walk-on, is the most experienced of the linemen. At 6–6 and 300 pounds, he also has the size of a Big 12 lineman, something most of his linemates lack.

Sophomore Dameon Hunt, who started the last five games, is the best of the rest. That group consists of sophomore Chris Enneking, juniors Shawn Vang and Michael Lies, and senior Derrick Chandler, a massive tackle who has spent most of his collegiate career as a backup.

Seniors Dewey Houston III and Brett McGraw are returning starters in the defensive line, which is good. They were two-thirds of a front that contributed to a ranking of 93rd in the nation against the run, which is not good. Then again, 93rd was slightly better than the Jayhawks' ranking in pass-efficiency defense.

Junior Adrian Greene rounds out the threesome. Sophomore Dion Johnson has commendable quickness and could develop. Junior Dan Dercher, normally an excellent pass rusher, had a disappointing season. The Jayhawks must figure out a way to at least hold their own at the line of scrimmage.

Senior inside linebacker Jason Thoren's strength is pursuit. Thoren and Steve Bratten, an aggressive junior, will have to hold off challenges from redshirt freshmen Dariss Lomax and Michael Goree.

Senior outside linebacker Ron Warner is an aggressive pass rusher. Junior Patrick Brown, a converted defensive end, lines up on the other side and is better against the run.

**58** The number of tie games in Kansas history, an NCAA Division I-A record, which won't be broken given the tie-breaker rule implemented last season.

Even though the Jayhawks are experienced in the secondary, they need help after allowing 2,456 passing yards, more than any other Big 12 team except Texas A&M. Kansas ranked 98th in the nation in pass-efficiency defense, and the Jayhawks were burned for 18 touchdown passes.

Free safety Tony Blevins is a four-year starter. Other senior defenders are cornerback Jason Harris, who intercepted four passes, and strong safety Maurice Gaddie. Juniors Jamie Harris and Michael Allen both have started.

Senior punter Dean Royal ranked 10th in the conference with a 38.4 yards-per-punt average. There is considerable room for improvement. True freshman Joe Garcia is the new placekicker. Garcia set a Kansas high school career record by kicking 27 field goals, including 19 as a senior, at Olathe North.

Vann led the Big 12 in kickoff returns last season.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (3)

| | |
|---|---|
| WR | **4 John Gordon (So., 1)**; 12 Eric Patterson (So., 0) |
| LT | 71 Derrick Chandler (Sr., 2); 50 Michael Lies (Jr., 1) |
| LG | **73 Dameon Hunt (So., 1)**; 66 Marc Owen (Fr., 0) |
| C | 68 Chris Enneking (So., 1); 53 Pat Bishop (Sr., 2) |
| RG | 72 Shawn Vang (Jr., 1); 59 Steve Maggio (Fr., 0) |
| RT | **76 Justin Glasgow (Jr., 1)**; 78 Chuck Jarvis (Fr., 0) |
| TE | 84 Brian Gray (Jr., 0); 39 Bonne Willis (So., 0) |
| QB | 18 Matt Johner (Sr., 3); Akili Roberson (Jr., 0) |
| RB | 44 Jon Macklin (Jr., 1); 35 Julius Bruce (Jr., 1) |
| RB | 25 Eric Vann (Sr., 2); 33 Paul Davis (So., 1) |
| WR | 86 Michael Chandler (So., 1); 82 Chad Coellner (So., 1) |
| K | Joe Garcia (Fr., 0) |

### DEFENSE (8)

| | |
|---|---|
| DT | 93 Adrian Greene (Jr., 1); 63 Dion Johnson (So., 1) |
| NT | **70 Brett McGraw (Sr., 3)**; 59 John Williams (So., 1) |
| DT | **83 Dewey Houston (Sr., 3)**; 90 Dan Dercher (Sr., 1) |
| LB | **47 Pat Brown (Jr., 2)**; 45 J.J. Johnson (Jr., 1) |
| LB | **38 Jason Thoren (Sr., 3)**; 60 Dariss Lomax (Fr., 0) |
| LB | 54 Steve Bratten (Jr., 2); 52 Tyrus Fontenot (So., 1) |
| LB | 99 Ron Warner (Sr., 2); 95 Jeremy Hanak (So., 1) |
| CB | **23 Jason Harris (Jr., 2)**; 20 Mitch Bowles (So., 1) |
| CB | **37 Jamie Harris (So., 1)**; 29 Manolito Jones (Sr., 2) |
| SS | **24 Maurice Gaddie (Jr., 2)**; 27 Michael Allen (Jr., 2) |
| FS | **28 Tony Blevins (Sr., 3)**; 6 Bilal Cook (So., 1) |
| P | **41 Dean Royal (Sr., 3)** |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

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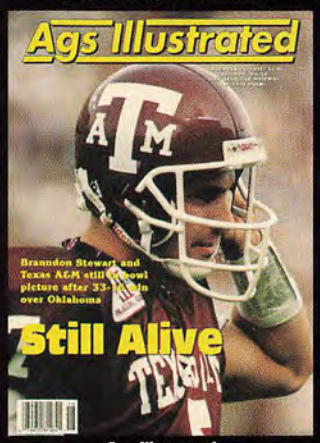


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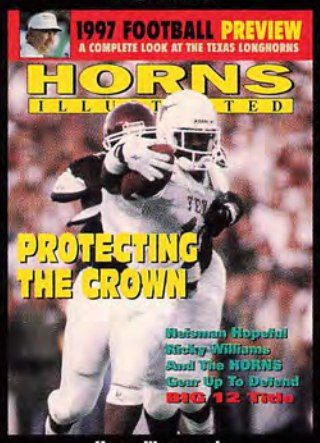


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# Ole Miss Rebels

**Head Coach** .....Tommy Tuberville
**1996 Record (SEC)** .....5–6 (2–6)
**1997 Prediction** .....6th SEC West
**Home Field**.....Vaught-Hemingway Stadium (42,577)

Probation has left Mississippi, but the effects of being allowed to sign just 13 players in 1995 and '96 because of NCAA sanctions could haunt them this season even though coaches were able to sign a full 25-man class this past winter.

"This could be our toughest year," says Tommy Tuberville, in his third year at the helm in Oxford. "We have about 15 seniors. Our incoming recruits will have to contribute a lot."

John Avery

Dwight King

Senior Stewart Patridge, who split time with Paul Head last season, is the top quarterback candidate. He totaled 876 passing yards and three touchdowns,starting the last three games. His dropback style seems to fit the controlled passing attack that Tuberville prefers, but the Rebels badly need a playmaker at quarterback.

They may have one in junior transfer Robert Reed, who started for Arkansas two years ago in the season opener, then quit the team when he realized he was being displaced by Barry Lunney. Reed's athletic improvisations could make coaches nervous, but that unpredictability might be what Ole Miss needs. He has a strong arm and the ability to throw on the run. Considering the Rebels' porous pass protection, that could tilt the QB battle his way.

If running back John Avery had gotten the kind of blocking some of his colleagues in opposing backfields enjoyed, he might have topped the 1,000-yard rushing mark. Avery churned for 788 yards at 4.4 a pop. His low-to-the-ground, dodging-and-darting style is reminiscent of Barry Sanders. Tacklers rarely get a clear shot at him. His backup is Tony Cannion, who almost has Avery's speed but not his moves. The coaches will take a hard look at freshman Ronte Langs.

The Rebels' receivers compare favorably with those of other SEC teams, but they didn't see the ball much last year because passers seldom had time to throw.

Grant Heard caught 21 passes for 291 yards and a pair of touchdowns. Andre Rone is the fastest player on the team. Because of that, Rone has been shifted to an inside receiving position, where he'll get the ball more on quick slants to make big plays.

After playing defense last year, Eli Anding has moved back to a combo receiver-running back slot position that should make better use of his talents. He's considered the most versatile offensive weapon.

Rufus French, rated as the nation's top high school tight end two years ago, is the Rebels' most sure-handed receiver. Last year, he was utilized primarily as a blocker in a two-tight end formation. This year he'll see the ball much more often.

The good news: three starters return from the offensive line. The bad news: that line wasn't very good.

When healthy, center Matt Luke is the best offensive lineman. The other returning starters, right tackle Boyd Kitchen and left guard Omar Edwards, aren't guaranteed their jobs. A couple of sophomores, guard Todd Wade and tackle Joey Embry, made huge strides in the spring and should start.

The front wall was the weakest link in a defense that finished next to last in the SEC.

Andre Harrison, who started last fall, gets the nod at one end, while Johnny Jones moves in at the other. Sophomore Mitch Baker, a transfer from Tennessee, was a load to handle during spring work and has earned himself a starting berth.

All three linebackers are seniors, giving Tuberville a sense of security he can't find anywhere else. Nate Wayne, who moved from outside to the middle last year, led the Rebels with 115 tackles. He had such a good spring, he received the Chucky Mullins Courage Award. He'll wear Mullins' No. 38 jersey.

Converted quarterback Broc Kreitz, a senior who has improved every year as an outside linebacker, recorded 87 tackles last year. Walker Jones, another outside linebacker, posted 67 tackles and five sacks after being moved from strong safety.

**11** The number of players recruited by the previous coaching staff who remained on the roster when coach Tommy Tuberville took over in 1995.

Tuberville discovered a real find in free safety Timothy Strickland, an All-SEC freshman choice after making 78 tackles and one interception. He's one of three returning starters in the secondary. On the negative side: the Rebels ranked next-to-last in the SEC last season in passing efficiency defense.

Cornerback Gary Thigpen and strong safety Ronnie Heard also started last season when the Rebs were usually lit up by any team that could throw effectively.

Steve Lindsey was expected to be the kicker, but failed to impress in the spring. Randall Green averaged 40.9 yards on punts last season.

Avery will return punts as well as kickoffs after averaging 27.8 yards on kickoff returns in 1996.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | 88 Grant Heard (So., 1); 85 Cory Peterson (So., 1) |
| LT | 70 Joey Embry (So., 1); 74 Devon Coburn (Sr., 2) |
| LG | **54 Omar Edwards (Sr., 2)**; 75 Andy Horton (Fr., 0) |
| C | **50 Matt Luke (Jr., 2)**; 58 Britton Smith (Fr., 0) |
| RG | 71 Todd Wade (So., 1); 57 Trenton King (Fr., 0) |
| RT | **78 Boyd Kitchen (Sr., 3)**; 77 Kendrick Hickman (Sr., 1) |
| TE | 9 Rufus French (So., 1); 81 Adam Bettis (So., 1) |
| QB | **1 Stewart Patridge (Sr., 1)**; 8 Robert Reed (Jr., 0) |
| RB | **20 John Avery (Sr., 1)**; 33 Tony Cannion (Jr., 1) |
| HB | 7 Eli Anding (Sr., 3); 37 Frank Cutolo (Fr., 0) |
| FL | **5 Andre Rone (Sr., 1)**; 12 Stuart Brown (Sr., 2) |
| K | 21 Steve Lindsey (Sr., 3); 47 Michael Mitchell (So., 0) |

### DEFENSE (7)

| | |
|---|---|
| LE | 92 Johnny Jones (Sr., 2); 53 Bo Bennett (So., 1) |
| LT | 90 Mitch Baker (So., 0); 62 Michael Boone (So., 1) |
| RT | 84 Comone Fisher (So., 1); 91 Gene Barnes (So., 1) |
| RE | **15 Andre Harrison (Sr., 1)**; 95 Morris Scott (Jr., 2) |
| LB | **14 Broc Kreitz (Sr., 3)**; 80 Al Rice (So., 1) |
| LB | **38 Nate Wayne (Sr., 3)**; 4 Armegis Spearman (So., 1) |
| LB | **29 Walker Jones (Sr., 3)**; 55 Matt Wells (Sr., 2) |
| CB | 34 Malikia Griffin (Sr., 2); 31 Sam Owen (So., 1) |
| CB | **30 Gary Thigpen (Jr., 2)**; 6 Bradley Robinson (Fr., 0) |
| SS | **2 Ronnie Heard (So., 1)**; 47 Trent Wright (So., 1) |
| FS | **3 Timothy Strickland (So., 1)**; 23 Jason Clingan (So., 1) |
| P | **39 Randall Green (Sr., 1)**; 32 Kevin Cooper (Sr., 1) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

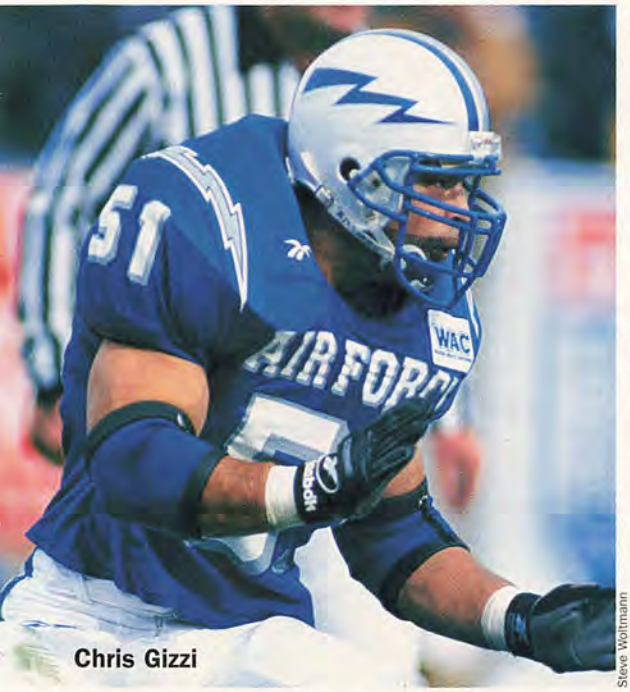
# Air Force Falcons

**Head Coach** .....Fisher DeBerry
**1996 Record (WAC)** .....6–5 (5–3)
**1997 Prediction** .....5th WAC Pacific
**Home Field**.....Falcon Stadium (52,123)

With Blane Morgan gunning to become Air Force Academy's quarterback, the story line is a natural. But try asking offensive coordinator Bob Noblitt how Blane Morgan compares to Beau Morgan, and the conversation stops.

"They're brothers," Noblitt will confirm and that's about all.

Understandably, Falcon coaches don't expect anyone to live up to Beau Morgan's high standards. He's the only quarterback ever to run for 1,000 yards and pass for 1,000 more in two consecutive seasons. The issue is how much other offensive players can improve to overcome the loss of Morgan and six other graduated starters.



Chris Gizzi

Steve Woltmann

Morgan, a junior, is two inches shorter (5–9) than his decorated brother and actually started spring drills in 1996 as a defensive back before being moved to quarterback. Morgan gained experience by leading Air Force's junior varsity team. Blane saw some varsity action, rushing for 56 yards on 11 attempts for a 5.1-yard average.

Noblitt is maintaining the program's standards. "We're not prepared for a drop-off at all," he says. WAC coaches have learned to respect the Falcons' offensive system as much as the players themselves.

"Their scheme is so different," says Colorado State defensive coordinator Larry Kerr. "That's as tough a game as there is to prepare for."

Running back Tobin Ruff, a returning starter, averaged 8.5 yards per carry with 178 yards. He will have an expanded role as an all-purpose back who can run, block and catch.

Jemal Singleton started seven games last season and proved dangerous as a kick returner. Charles Gilliam, Barry Roche and Floyd Brazier will contribute. Matt Paroda appeared in three games at fullback, where the triple option starts. New running backs must develop quickly.

There is such a position in Air Force's offense as wide receiver, but no receiver who caught a pass last season is returning, leaving juniors Mike Barron and Dylan Newman to compete for the position.

Rory Rosenbach is a 250-pound tight end who's asked to block.

Noblitt, who also coaches the line, will put two 280-pounders on the field for the first time. Senior Charles Parks and junior Frank Mindrup are the line's biggest building blocks. Senior Shawn Tellers is a returning starter at guard but was limited by injuries during spring practice. Center remains a question. Seniors Karl Falk and Rob Evert could move in at the tackle spots.

With all the personnel uncertainty, Air Force could hardly be expected to perform at last season's level of 439 total yards a game, ranking fifth in the WAC.

Entering last season, defensive coordinator Cal McCombs figured his front seven was solid, but he was concerned about the secondary. Different story this year.

McCombs must replace his three-man defensive line. Senior Tim Schumacher appeared in 10 games as a tackle, and senior Ron Jenkins was fairly effective as a reserve nose guard. Juniors Bryce Fisher and Cliff Reimer and sophomore Shawn Thomas are other candidates.

Senior inside linebacker Chris Gizzi returns as the WAC Pacific Division's Defensive Player of the Year after making 12 tackles a game and five sacks last season. He stands only 5-11 but is a real presence in the middle of the field with quick feet, strength and tackling ability.

One of two seniors, Jeffrey Mohr or Sean Finnan, could be paired with Gizzi inside with the other possibly moving outside.

Senior Steve Fernandez is established at an outside position as an aggressive player who's an outstanding pass rusher. He led the Falcons with seven sacks and 10 tackles for loss.

Air Force's secondary played well enough for the Falcons to rank third in the WAC in total defense.

Steve Pipes, who is consistent at strong safety, led the team with three interceptions. Jason Sanderson had his ups and downs at free safety. Strong, fast Frank Staine-Pyne should be more effective at strong corner, following off-season shoulder surgery. Tim Curry never started a game but played considerably at weak corner.

> **0** The Falcons allowed zero overtime points in two games, defeating Notre Dame with a field goal and Fresno State with a touchdown.

The Falcons replace Dallas Thompson, whose 27-yard field goal beat Notre Dame in overtime. Junior Jason Kirkland handled about one-third of the punting, with a 43-yard average. The Falcons, known for blocking kicks — 33 blocks in the '90s — had four of their own punts blocked last season.

Sanderson is a dependable punt returner and Singleton was excellent on kickoff returns.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

**WR** 9 Dylan Newman (Jr., 2); 85 Mike Barron (Jr, 1)
**LT** 68 Karl Falk (Sr., 3); 60 Scott Breece (Sr., 2)
**LG** **61 Shawn Tellers (Sr., 3)**; 74 Frank Mindrup (Jr., 2)
**C** 52 Jeff Parr (Sr., 3); 50 Brian Phillps (Jr., 2)
**RG** **72 Charles Parks (Sr., 2)**; 69 Michael Roberts (So., 1)
**RT** 67 Rob Evert (Sr., 2); 71 Eric Woodring (Jr., 1)
**TE** **83 Rory Rosenbach (Sr., 2)**; 80 Ryan Quaale (Sr., 1)
**QB** 11 Blane Morgan (Jr., 1); 15 Stephen O'Neill (So., 1)
**FB** 21 Charles Gilliam (Jr., 1); 32 Ryan Hill (Jr., 1)
**RB** **19 Tobin Ruff (Sr., 1);** 40 Jared Sessum (So., 1)
**RB** 24 Jemal Singleton (Jr., 1); 23 Barry Roche (Jr., 1)
**K** 82 Alex Wright (Jr., 1)

### DEFENSE (5)

**DT** 93 Shawn Thomas (So., 1); 57 Tim Schumacher (Sr., 1)
**NG** 77 Ron Jenkins (Sr., 2); 94 Rory Stein (So., 1)
**DT** 78 Bryce Fisher (Jr., 2); 97 Cliff Reimer (Jr., 1)
**LB** 91 Sean Finnan (Sr., 1); 46 Mike Tyler (Jr., 1)
**LB** **51 Chris Gizzi (Sr., 3)**; 18 Billy Free (Jr., 1)
**LB** 58 Jeff Mohr (Sr., 3); 54 C.J. Zanotti (So., 1)
**LB** **56 Steve Fernandez (Sr., 2)**; 47 Travis Meidinger (So., 1)
**CB** **20 Frank Staine-Pyne (Sr., 3)**; 10 Nishawn Smahg (So., 1)
**CB** 5 Tim Curry (Jr., 1); 7 Charlton Warren (Jr., 1)
**FAL** **1 Stephen Pipes (Sr., 2)**; 8 Jeff Felton (So., 1)
**FS** **3 Jason Sanderson (Jr., 2)**; 7 Jason Blevens (So., 1)
**P** 86 Jason Kirkland (Jr., 1)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Illinois Fighting Illini

**Head Coach .....Ron Turner**
**1996 Record (Big 10) ....2–9 (1–7)**
**1997 Prediction .....9th Big 10**
**Home Field.....Memorial Stadium (69,000)**

It is not so much a back-to-basics attitude at Illinois under first-year coach Ron Turner. It's more like a back-to-offense approach.

The Illini fired defensive-minded Lou Tepper and hired Turner, who worked the last four years as the offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach of the Chicago Bears. What the Fighting Illini want this season is scoring, but they must first absorb Turner's West Coast, pro-style offense, which he terms "simplicity with diversity."

Robert Holcombe

Steve Woltmann

"We have different schemes for passing and running," Turner says. "Protection, terminology, everything is completely different. It's starting from scratch with these players."

Turner likes a gambling, aggressive, wide-open offense, and certainly, Illinois fans are ready for some razzle-dazzle following a dreadful 2–9 season in which Illinois went 1–7 in the Big Ten.

Mark Hoekstra, a junior, is the oldest of the returning quarterbacks. He played in six games and completed 22-of-46 passes for 224 yards but had six interceptions.

Robert Holcombe, a two-time 1,000-yard rusher, returns for his senior season, and the way Turner sees it "Heisman candidate" should appear before his name.

Holcombe possesses that special combination of speed and power. He bench-presses 390 pounds, but more importantly, he can be a game breaker if he gets the blocking. Holcombe averaged 116.45 yards and set the Illinois single-season rushing record with 1,281 yards on 260 carries. Sophomore fullback Elmer Hickman missed most of the 1996 season because of knee surgery and should be reliable. Redshirt freshman Nehemiah Minor, who runs a 10.7 100-yard dash and benches 270 pounds, may ease into the lineup.

Turner's offensive scheme, at times, will include three- and four-receiver sets, which bodes well for players like senior Marquis Mosely (28 catches for 301 yards), junior Rob Majoy and junior George McDonald- Ashford.

Mosley leads the group in experience. He has a vertical leap of 34 inches and is a big-play threat because of his speed.

Majoy recorded 19 catches for 149 yards and McDonald-Ashford had 12 receptions for 79 yards.

Expect to see plenty of senior tight end Matt Cushing. He has great hands and used them to catch 22 passes for 203 yards.

Illinois has experience in the offensive line with four returning starters, but not great depth. Senior left guard Brent Taylor started the final six games on the line and will regain that position.

At the tackles are twin juniors Ryan and Tom Schau. Senior Chris Brown is expected to return at center, where he started all but one game.

Sophomore Mike Flaar will play behind Ryan Schau, and 6–5, 352-pound redshirt freshman Marques Sullivan could work his way in at right guard.

Turner wants an aggressive defense and it starts in the line. The coach has expressed concern about a drop-off in size in the interior line and expects to rotate frequently to keeps players fresh.

The top returnee is junior Garrett Johnson, who moved from linebacker to tackle. Rameel Connor, who will start at the other tackle, was the team's Rookie of the Year in 1996. Also back is junior Jeff Weisse, 1996 defensive end starter who had 37 tackles and three sacks.

Turner inherits a linebacker group that boasts depth and speed. Junior Eric Guenther is the top returning tackler with 89, including 53 solo. Sophomore Danny Clark also is back, coming off a productive season in which he started all but one game and recorded 52 tackles. Senior David James made three starts and recorded 25 tackles.

**17.3** The average number of points the Illini scored a year ago. Illinois, which was shut out by Arizona and Ohio State, went the first three games without scoring a touchdown.

Seniors James Williams and Trevor Starghill return as the starting cornerbacks. Williams distinguished himself as a big-play defensive back with 67 tackles, an interception and a fumble recovery. Starghill, a starter for three seasons, makes up for his 5–8, 182-pound size with strength and quickness. He benches 365 pounds and is considered the fastest player on the team. Starghill has eight career interceptions.

Sophomore Asim Pleas made six starts at strong safety and led the team with four interceptions. Junior Mike Gusich should open at free safety.

Sophomore Jason Higgins handled the bulk of the punting. Sophomore Neil Rackers and senior Bret Scheuplein shared field-goal duties and neither was awesome.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | **5 Marquis Mosley (Sr., 3)**; 1 Michael Dean (So., 1) |
| LT | **62 Tom Schau (Jr., 2)**; 71 Antoine McNutt (So., 0) |
| LG | **70 Brent Taylor (Sr., 3)**; 67 J. P. Machado (So., 0) |
| C | **65 Chris Brown (Sr., 3)**; 68 Corey Ryan (Sr., 0) |
| RG | 79 Marques Sullivan (Fr., 0); 75 Chip Nicastro (So., 0) |
| RT | **60 Ryan Schau (Jr., 2)**; 64 Mike Flaar (So., 1) |
| TE | **86 Matt Cushing (Sr., 3)**; 80 Conrad Adams (Jr., 1) |
| QB | 11 Mark Hoekstra (Jr., 2); 13 Tim Lavery (Fr., 0) |
| FB | 32 Elmer Hickman (So., 1); 31 Nehemiah Minor (Fr., 0) |
| TB | **35 Robert Holcombe (Sr., 3)**; 2 Wilbert Smith (Jr., 1) |
| WR | 22 Rob Majoy (Jr., 2); 6 George McDonald-Ashford (Jr., 1) |
| K | 10 Bret Scheuplein (Sr., 3); 98 Neil Rackers (So. 1) |

### DEFENSE (8)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | **53 Jeff Weisse (Jr., 2)**; 56 Ryan Murphy (Jr., 1) |
| DT | **66 Garrett Johnson (Jr., 2)**; 90 Jeff Schwantz (Jr., 0) |
| DT | **95 Rameel Conner (So., 1)**; 73 Joe Lauzen (Jr., 0) |
| DE | 59 Mike Fordham (Sr., 2); 85 Mike McGee (So., 1) |
| LB | **48 Danny Clark (So., 1)**; 58 Chris Hoffman (So., 1) |
| LB | **41 Eric Guenther (Jr., 2)**; 45 Manuel Strong (So., 0) |
| LB | 42 David James (Sr., 3); 30 Robert Franklin (Fr., 0) |
| CB | **26 James Williams (Sr., 3)**; 17 Terence Marable (Jr., 0) |
| CB | **20 Trevor Starghill (Sr., 3)**; 8 Carlos McLaurin So., 0) |
| SS | **24 Asim Pleas (So., 1)**; 27 Ivan Benson (So., 1) |
| FS | 39 Mike Gusich (Jr., 2); 19 Steve Willis (Jr., 1) |
| P | **4 Jason Higgins (So., 1)** |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Houston Cougars

**Head Coach** .....Kim Helton
**1996 Record (C-USA)** .....7–5 (4–1)
**1997 Prediction** .....5th C-USA
**Home Field**.....Astrodome (60,000)

In just four years, coach Kim Helton has lifted the Houston program from the scrap heap to nationally respected status.

"We received some favorable media recognition last year and that was positive for the program," says Helton. "We have improved our program in terms of academics, image and on-field success."

That success has created a quiet optimism in Houston. Clyde Drexler, Carl Lewis, Hakeem Olajuwon, and countless less-famous others, have donated time, energy and money to save an athletic program that two years ago faced daunting circumstances.

Ketric Sanford

Steve Woltmann

The school transported 20 bus loads of students to Memphis for the Liberty Bowl. On the air, ESPN announcers praised the Cougar fans for their class and enthusiasm.

There is a renewed sense of optimism about Cougar football, despite many question marks this year's team faces, particularly at quarterback.

The loss of quarterback Chuck Clements is crippling. Helton says that sophomore Tyson Helton (the coach's son) and redshirt freshman Jason McKinley will be the top two candidates when August workouts begin. Helton threw one incomplete pass last fall and is considered a scrambler not a classic dropback passer. McKinley is bigger, stronger, a better passer, and the likely starter.

Ketric Sanford will be one of the nation's three best sophomore tailbacks. He is that talented. A C-USA all-freshman selection, the multidimensional Sanford is as effective catching the ball and returning kicks as he is rushing. He averaged 130.1 all-purpose yards and has an opportunity to elevate that figure to 200. Sanford is a future All-American.

"Ketric is as good a runner as any back in the country, but he's got to learn to block," Helton says.

"Sanford is a fine young talent," says Cincinnati coach Rick Minter. "It was a cause-and-effect relationship last season. He did well because the Houston passing game did well. But he should have another great year, even if the passing attack is not as strong."

When Houston needs a fullback, Ryan Burton's name will be called.

Rarely are tight ends more impressive as receivers than split ends. However, this may be the case with Houston. The Cougars feature three top-notch tight ends in juniors Rodney Griffin (12 catches) and Jonathan Dennis (9), and sophomore Scott Regimbald (12), who combined for 357 yards, an 11.5-yards-per-catch average and two scores.

The key wideouts are junior Robbie Wheeler and senior Maurice Bryant. Senior Michael Kinslow, juniors Richard Edwards and Jason deGroot, and sophomore Mike Smith all are capable of contributing.

Senior center Ben Fricke, an all-conference choice, is back to anchor what should be one of C-USA's best offensive lines. The guards are Truett Novosad and Wilbert Brown, both returning starters.

Two new starters will handle the tackle spots, with Charles Johnson and Justin Stille the front-runners. The return of Gregory Brown, a starting guard in 1995, helps.

Last season, Houston lacked a big-play lineman on defense. Left end Leonta Rheams could change that this year. His main attribute is quickness. Rusty Foster is a returning starter on the right side. The nose tackle will be Antoine Simpson.

Houston ranked fifth of six C-USA teams in rushing defense (169.1 yards per game) and the line was the main reason. Rheams must produce if the problem is to be rectified.

The Houston linebacking crew will be impressive. Inside linebacker Mike Parker is a fine player despite little recognition. Vaughn Washington is dependable as Parker's partner on the inside.

Louis Hampton, a former reserve, should start at one outside linebacker spot, while Micah Malone, another C-USA all-freshman team selection, will develop into a standout at the other. Jason Brown, who improved his game significantly as a junior, and Reggie Davis will be tough reserves.

**16,500** The number of square feet in the weight room of Houston's state-of-the-art multipurpose training facility, the Athletics/Alumni Center.

If Houston is to improve its pass defense, junior strong safety Stedmon Forman (77 total tackles) must establish himself as the leader of the secondary. Cornerback William Fields and free safety Malik Ledbetter must blossom into mature, steady performers. Rounding out the secondary is cornerback Thomathan Good.

Houston's special teams should be among the nation's best. Senior kicker Sebastian Villarreal connected on 11-of-15 field goal attempts and was 5-of-6 from distances of 41 to 50 yards. Punter Ignacio Sauceda averaged 40.5 yards with no blocks, but freshman Ivan Luna could earn an opportunity. Sanford returned 25 kickoffs for a 23.7-yard average.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | 85 Richard Edwards (Jr., 2); 41 Mike Smith (So., 0) |
| LT | 69 Charles Johnson (Jr., 1); 71 Josh Lovelady (Fr., 0) |
| LG | **54 Truett Novosad (So., 1);** 68 Greg Brown (So., 1) |
| C | **66 Ben Fricke (Sr., 3)**; 64 Jeff Medford (So., 1) |
| RG | **74 Wilbert Brown (Jr., 2)**; 65 Nathan Woody (Fr., 0) |
| RT | 78 Justin Stille (So., 1); 61 Damon Spivey (Fr., 0) |
| TE | **83 Rodney Griffin (Jr., 2)**; 21 Scott Regimbald (So., 1) |
| QB | 15 Tyson Helton (So., 1); 16 Jason McKinley (Fr., 0) |
| HB | **2 Robbie Wheeler (Jr., 2)**; 30 Michael Kinslow (Sr., 1) |
| TB | 7 Ketric Sanford (So., 1); 9 Jay McGuire (Sr., 1) |
| FL | 81 Maurice Bryant (Sr., 1); 88 Joseph Butler (So., 0) |
| K | **97 Sebastian Villarreal (Sr., 2)** |

### DEFENSE (9)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | **75 Leonta Rheams (Sr., 3)**; 92 Mike Knepper (So., 1) |
| NT | **94 Antoine Simpson (Sr., 1)**; 99 Delondo Fields (Sr., 0) |
| DE | **93 Rusty Foster (Sr., 3)**; 80 Mike DeRouselle (So., 1) |
| LB | **19 Micah Malone (So., 1)**; 48 Keon Banks (Sr., 3) |
| LB | **44 Mike Parker (Sr., 3)**; 49 Reggie Davis (Sr., 2) |
| LB | **51 Vaughn Washington (Sr., 1)**; 45 Chad Shaw (Sr., 3) |
| LB | 47 Louis Hampton (Jr., 2); 42 Jason Brown (Sr., 2) |
| CB | **35 William Fields (So., 1)**; 40 Derrick Boxill (So., 0) |
| CB | 37 Thomathan Good (Sr., 3); 28 Marcus Smith (So., 0) |
| SS | **24 Stedmon Forman (Jr., 2)**; 36 Eric Wilson (Fr., 0) |
| FS | **27 Malik Ledbetter (So., 0)**; 39 Damon Harris (Jr., 1) |
| P | **4 Ignacio Sauceda (Jr., 2)**; 3 Ivan Luna (Fr., 0) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Minnesota Golden Gophers

**Head Coach .....Glen Mason**
**1996 Record (Big 10) ....4–7 (1–7)**
**1997 Prediction .....10th Big Ten**
**Home Field.....Metrodome (63,669)**

Minnesota fans are hoping Glen Mason can do what no other coach has done for the Gophers the last three decades: return them to the top echelon of the Big Ten.

Mason, who comes to Minnesota after nine years at Kansas where he produced four winning seasons and took teams to two bowl games, says he does not look at his new job as a rebuilding project. Revamping is more like it.

Cory Sauter

Peter Brouillet

"This program is in a lot better shape than the others I've inherited," says Mason.

The Gophers return 14 starters, eight on offense, from last year's 4–7 team.

Mason claims all positions are up for grabs, but clearly, the quarterback job belongs to senior Cory Sauter, who has started every game the last two seasons.

The offense has been tailored to Sauter's strong arm, quick release and accuracy, having completed 58 percent of his attempts. Sauter has thrown for 5,258 yards and 32 touchdowns. He was first in the Big Ten in total offense last season, averaging 224.1 yards per game.

Minnesota's pass offense has led the Big Ten three of the last five years, but the ground game has ranked no higher than ninth.

Mason's goal is a balanced offense, and for Minnesota that means an emphasis on the running game. That's good news for talented sophomores Thomas Hamner and Byron Evans. Hamner started last season, gaining 883 yards on 195 carries.

Mason intends to revive Minnesota's tradition of fullbacks, but he admits it will take a few recruiting classes to bolster the running attack.

In the Big Ten, there hasn't been a better place for receivers than Minnesota. Seniors Tutu Atwell and Ryan Thelwell led the league last season with a combined 10.5 catches and 170.5 yards a game.

Thelwell has size, excellent hands and the ability to break the big play. He is the program's all-time leader in receptions (136) and receiving yards (2,232). Atwell set the single-season school record with 62 receptions in 1996.

Three offensive line starters return. Senior Gregg James, who started every game at center, likely will open at right guard. Senior left tackle Luke Herkenhoff and right tackle Tim Socha are the other returning starters on the line.

Mason is giving the Gophers' defense a face lift. "We are changing completely," he says. "It will be a complete departure from what they've been running."

Minnesota goes from the multiple 3–4 scheme it employed last season to the more aggressive 4–3. Certainly, the Gophers have nowhere to go but up after ranking last in the Big Ten and 86th nationally in total defense, allowing 409 yards and 33.8 points per game. In rushing defense, the Gophers finished 104th.

Senior Raymond Baylor started the final nine games of '96 at tackle and is the only returning starter. Mark Cross, a senior, has played in 33 consecutive games at linebacker, end and nose guard, and should start at end.

Three starters — Donny Dalton, Parc Williams and Rufus Smith, give the Gophers experience at linebacker, their strongest position. Williams, a junior who plays on the inside, was the team's defensive MVP after registering a team-high 98 tackles. Smith, a junior, distinguished himself in the Illinois game, when he recorded a career-high 16 tackles.

Senior safety Crawford Jordan has never missed a game and doesn't like to miss a hit, either. He tied with Smith as the third-leading tackler with 76. Jordan offers versatility, considering he has started at strong safety, free safety and outside linebacker.

Sophomore strong safety Tyrone Carter made an impact, finishing second in tackles with 83. In the upset of Syracuse, his first start, Carter returned two fumbles for touchdowns. Junior Craig Scruggs and senior Terrance Blayne handle the corners. Blayne was a starter two years ago but missed the '96 season because of a knee injury.

**22** The number of yards Cory Sauter needs to become Minnesota's all-time leading passer. Sauter has thrown for 5,258 yards and trails only Marquel Fleetwood (1989-92).

Junior Adam Bailey, a Lou Groza Award semifinalist last season, is back. He had a career-long, 49-yard field goal against Michigan and was fifth in the Big Ten and 17th nationally with an average of 1.3 field goals per game. Bailey also handles kickoffs and had 10 touchbacks a season ago.

As a freshman, Steve Kemph averaged just more than 38 yards a punt and should improve his distance this season. He averaged 44 yards at Mt. Carmel High in Chicago.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| SE | 4 | **Ryan Thelwell (Sr., 3)**; 6 Derrick Harvey (Sr.,0 ) |
| LT | 65 | **Luke Herkenhoff (Sr., 2)**; 69 James Elizondo (Sr., 1) |
| LG | 77 | Pat Hau (So., 0); 73 Kris Hoffarth (So., 1) |
| C | 64 | Luke Glime (Sr., 1); 78 Jon Albrecht (Jr., 2) |
| RG | 62 | **Gregg James (Sr., 2)**; 74 Jeff Baldauf (Sr., 1) |
| RT | 63 | **Tim Socha (Jr., 2)**; 68 Erik Lindgren (Sr., 0) |
| TE | 87 | Troy Duerr (Jr., 2); 88 Ryan Hubbard (Sr., 2); |
| QB | 17 | **Cory Sauter (Sr., 2)**; 5 Billy Cockerham (So., 0) |
| SB | 1 | **Tutu Atwell (Sr., 3)**; 27 Luke Leverson (So., 1) |
| RB | 12 | **Thomas Hamner (So., 1)**; 36 Byron Evans (So., 1) |
| FL | 9 | **Greg Nelson (Sr., 3)**; 3 Lee Hutton (Jr., 1) |
| K | 19 | **Adam Bailey (Jr., 1)** |

### DEFENSE (6)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | 41 | Mark Cross (Sr., 3); 55 Dave Watson (Jr., 1)) |
| DT | 91 | **Raymond Baylor (Sr., 2)**; 97 Jerome Elliott (Jr., 0) |
| DT | 58 | Antoine Richard (Jr., 2) 94 Josh Rawlings (So., 0) |
| DE | 56 | Lamanzer Williams (Sr., 3) 95 Jon Michals (So., 1) |
| LB | 50 | **Donny Dalton (Sr., 1)**; 52 Luke Braaten (So. 1) |
| LB | 37 | **Parc Williams (Jr., 2)**; 28 Tim Grate (Jr., 1) |
| LB | 46 | **Rufus Smith (Jr., 2)**; 45 Deon White (Jr., 1) |
| CB | 2 | **Craig Scruggs (Jr., 2)**; 43 Mari Moore (Jr., 2) |
| CB | 25 | Terrance Blayne (Sr., 3); 20 Fred Rodgers (So. 1) |
| SS | 22 | **Tyrone Carter (So., 1)**;8 Keith Dimmy (Jr. 0) |
| FS | 23 | Crawford Jordan (Sr., 3); 16 Mike Harden (Fr., 0) |
| P | 26 | **Steve Kemph (So., 1)** |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

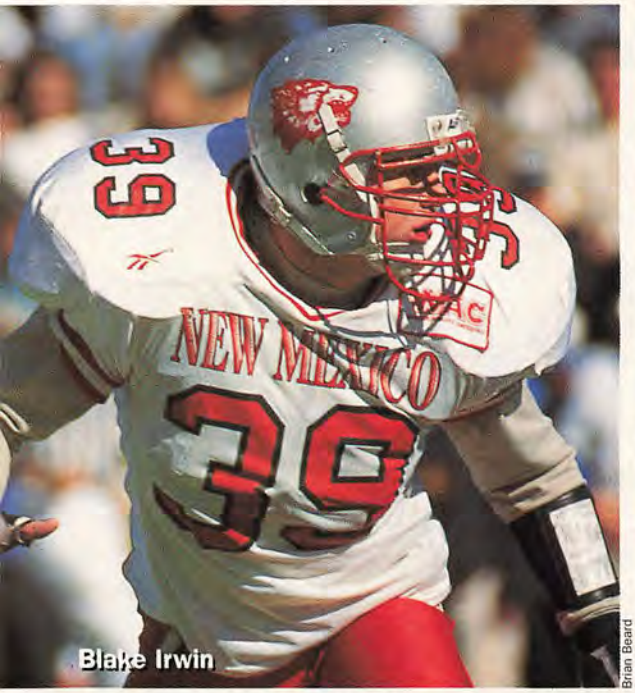
# New Mexico Lobos

**Head Coach** .....Dennis Franchione
**1996 Record (WAC)** .....6–5 (3–5)
**1997 Prediction** .....4th WAC Mountain
**Home Field**.....University Stadium (31,218)

New Mexico has become competitive. The program has credibility. The Lobos play consistently.

Contending? That's the missing "c."

Over five seasons, coach Dennis Franchione has brought respectability to New Mexico. Yet the Lobos have never finished higher than a tie for fifth place in the Western Athletic Conference or done anything out of the ordinary like beating Brigham Young.



Blake Irwin

Brian Beard

"People respect what we've done," Franchione says. And that's true. The next step is becoming a division title challenger. And they have a genuine shot at that distinction.

The Lobos expect improvement in the passing game from junior quarterback Graham Leigh, who started four games as a freshman at Pacific before that school dropped football. Leigh is a decent runner, but his forte is throwing the ball on target.

Junior Lennox Gordon took over at tailback last year and gained 1,008 yards. Gordon is fast and powerful, and can run inside or outside.

The Lobos have evolved into more of a two-back offense the last couple of years, dictated partly by senior fullback Chris Shelton's ability. He averaged 5.5 yards a carry.

Sophomore Reginal Johnson provides better-than-average backfield depth. He gained 232 yards against Tulsa when Gordon was injured. Lobo ball carriers lost only five fumbles, contributing to the WAC's best turnover margin.

New Mexico likes to spread the ball around with three wideouts. The top targets should be seniors Pascal Volz, Milton Thomas and Jamie Oliver, sophomore Martinez Williams and junior Derrick Milner.

Senior tight end Roy White was pushed all spring by junior Tommy Hemphill.

Utah defensive coordinator Kyle Whittingham wants to know where the Lobos keep finding these huge offensive linemen. "They always have five behemoths," he says.

New Mexico lists three starters in the 310-pound range. The other two are only about 280. The line's anchor is senior tackle Shane Jaeger, credited with a school-record 23½ knockdown blocks against Texas Christian. The other tackle is senior Matt Tyner, who came back in late October after breaking his leg in the opening game.

Junior Chris Wallace started 10 games at strong guard, and sophomore Jason Carson would have played more if not for a broken foot. Sophomore center Chris Bazua's spring showing was encouraging.

New Mexico's defense improved steadily under first-year coordinator Gary Patterson. The Lobos finished sixth in the 16-team WAC in total defense.

Junior tackles Barrett Garrison and Bill Borchers, who tallied four sacks, return on the four-man front, but gone is the outside rush of departed ends Chris Carroll and Terrence Burton. Sophomore Ryan Taylor and senior John Wingate, who has played enough to record 14 career sacks, are the leading contenders.

In Patterson's 4–2–5 scheme, which requires just two linebackers, senior Blake Irwin fills most of that need himself. Irwin has started all but one game for three seasons and could become the school's all-time leading tackler. He ranked second in the conference with 13 tackles for loss. The other linebacker is senior Bart Barnard, Irwin's high school teammate.

With five defensive backs in the lineup, the Lobos improved from an NCAA-low three interceptions in 1995 to 12 last year and cut their opponents' completion percentage from 64 to 54.

Four starters are back and all five regulars will be seniors. Cornerback Ramos McDonald's six interceptions tied him for second in the WAC, while free safety Billy Austin was second to Irwin in tackles.

**85** For the first time since coach Dennis Franchione took over in 1992, the Lobos have reached the NCAA scholarship limit of 85 athletes.

Scott McGarrahan is a two-year starter at weak safety. Strong safety Marcus Stanton started seven games when healthy last year. That leaves cornerback Jameal Woods as the only newcomer in the lineup, and he played in every game.

Senior Jason Bloom tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his kicking leg while covering a punt in the season-ending game with UTEP. Assuming he comes back healthy after missing spring practice, Bloom should rank as one of the WAC's top punters. He averaged 43.5 yards last season and was also effective as a long-distance placekicker. Only 19 of his 62 kickoffs were returned.

Senior Colby Cason returns as the kicker, having made all eight field-goal tries from inside 40 yards.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

**WR** 81 Pascal Volz (Sr., 1); 9 Martinez Williams (So., 0)
**LT** 53 Matt Tyner (Sr., 3); 69 Jon Samuelson (Fr., 0)
**LG** **79 Chris Wallace (Jr., 2)**; 75 Aaron Ocampo (Sr., 0)
**C** 77 Chris Bazua (So., 0); 78 Jon Shedden (Fr., 0)
**RG** 73 Jason Carson (So., 1); 74 Chad Thacker (Fr., 0)
**RT** **56 Shane Jaeger (Sr., 3)**; 67 Josh Brown (So., 1)
**TE** **84 Roy White (Sr., 3)**; 85 Tommy Hemphill (Jr., 2)
**QB** 7 Graham Leigh (Jr., 1); 3 Brad Boyd (Jr., 0)
**FB** **38 Chris Shelton (Sr., 3)**; 41 Ja'Mine Rozzell (So., 1)
**TB** **32 Lennox Gordon (Jr., 2)**; 26 Reginal Johnson (So., 1)
**WR** 83 Milton Thomas (Sr., 3); 45 Derrick Milner (Jr., 2)
**K** **87 Colby Cason (Sr., 2)**; 18 Mike Ross (Jr., 0)

### DEFENSE (7)

**DE** 55 Ryan Taylor (So., 1); 52 Henry Stephens (Fr., 0)
**DT** **98 Bill Borchers (Jr., 2)**; 49 Jason Purvis (So., 1)
**DT** **90 Barrett Garrison (Jr., 2)**; 94 Travis Journagan (So., 1)
**DE** 95 John Wingate (Sr., 3); 93 Frans Dinkelmann (So., 0)
**LB** 51 Bart Barnard (Sr., 3); 80 Brian Urlacher (So., 1)
**LB** **39 Blake Irwin (Sr., 3)**; 54 Stacy Washington (So., 1)
**CB** **34 Ramos McDonald (Sr., 1)**; 36 Marcus McDavid (So., 1)
**CB** 18 Jameal Woods (Sr., 3); 22 Walter Bernard (Fr., 0)
**SS** **11 Marcus Stanton (Sr., 1)**; 46 Antoine Wright (Jr., 2)
**WS** **6 Scott McGarrahan (Sr., 3)**; 9 Mark Ransom (Fr., 0)
**FS** **16 Billy Austin (Sr., 3)**; 27 Chad Smith (Jr., 2)
**P** **21 Jason Bloom (Sr., 2)**; 18 Mike Ross (Jr., 0)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Central Florida Golden Knights

**Head Coach** .....Gene McDowell
**1996 Record**.....5–6
**Home Field**.....Citrus Bowl (70,188)

Daunte Culpepper is playing at Central Florida about eight years too early. By the 2005 season, the Golden Knight program should have achieved sufficient national recognition to give the talented quarterback a chance to garner first-team All-America status.

"Culpepper's good," says UCF coach Gene McDowell of his star. "I'd be surprised if there is another quarterback nationally any better."

Daunte Culpepper

Paul Chapman

Culpepper, a 6–4, 235-pound junior who can throw the ball 80 yards, is a bigger, stronger version of Houston Oilers quarterback Steve McNair.

Thanks in part to Culpepper's presence, high-profile conferences will be watching McDowell's up-and-coming program. Media reports have linked the independent school in the future to the Big East (football only) and Conference USA (all sports or football only).

Last year, the Knights finished 5–6, topping Division I-A teams Bowling Green and UAB. UCF was competitive in road losses to East Carolina (28–7), Georgia Tech (27–20), New Mexico (17–7) and South Carolina (33–14).

This fall, "Show Culpepper" visits SEC members Auburn, Ole Miss, Mississippi State and South Carolina, and Big 12 stalwart Nebraska.

"I hope to convince our players that the road games are an opportunity, not an unrealistic challenge," McDowell says. "We can use the energy of our opponents' fans to motivate ourselves."

Despite missing 10 quarters due to injuries, Culpepper threw for 2,565 yards and 19 touchdowns, while connecting on 59.6 percent of 314 attempts. If UCF can overhaul its woeful rushing attack, he should be able to improve his rushing stats of 102 net yards on 94 carries, which is not bad for a quarterback.

McDowell laments his running game, noting, "We absolutely must be able to run the football better."

Bluntly, the Golden Knights' ground game was anything but golden, totaling a paltry 93.2 yards per contest. Tailbacks Mike Grant, Mike Huff and Edward Mack, a junior, senior and sophomore, respectively, all return.

Freshman tailback Dwight Collins, who can bench-press 400 pounds, arrives in Orlando with great talent and desire, and an inability to hear.

"Working with Dwight will make our staff and players more sensitive to the needs of the handicapped," says McDowell. "It will be a challenge, but we're not going to treat him differently. If he's ready, we're ready."

Junior college arrival Dossy Robbins will be the primary fullback.

The UCF receiver corps is as healthy as Culpepper's arm is cannon-like. The two best pass catchers are senior Todd Cleveland and junior Mark Nonsant, who combined for 119 receptions and 1,670 yards. Senior Rufus Hall, a starter most of the season is also back, giving Culpepper an excellent trio of receivers. Junior college transfer Siaha Burley combines great speed with keen field awareness and precise patterns. Sophomore Dan Daniels may start at tight end but will be lucky to have more than 10 passes thrown his way.

Four starters return, led by junior left tackle Cornell Green. Junior center Bill Dayton and junior right guard Marcus Jenkins join Green, with left guard Ryan Gillis the unit's only senior. Sophomore Frank Haynes is expected to start at right tackle. McDowell sees hope for the front wall, and improved line play will help the rushing attack.

Senior ends Jermaine Benoit, voted the team's most improved defensive player for 1996, and Jameil McWhorter return with sophomore tackle Justen Moore, who looks to improve upon his team-leading nine tackles for loss. Redshirt freshman Jeff Mauldin has the inside track at the other tackle spot.

All three starters from '96 are gone. Sophomore Deaubrey Devine is expected to man the middle, with junior Mike Palmer on one side. The other outside slot could go to newcomer Chris Gunn, a junior.

For the first time in many years, McDowell feels fairly comfortable with his secondary. Senior strong safety Donnell Washington, a second-team All-Independent selection last fall, will be the leader of the entire defense. The free safety is senior Kenton Rickerson. Darryl Latimore, who was granted an medical redhsirt last season after starting the first three games, joins sophomore Davin Bush on the corners. Reginald Doster who started last season is a backup again.

Fred Waczewski, a junior, has a strong leg but only one field goal (a 38-yarder as a freshman) to his credit. Four players are battling for the punting chores. Cleveland will be a dangerous kick/punt returner. He averaged 18.6 yards on five punt returns last season.

**4** The number of NCAA divisions Central Florida's football program has competed in since its inception in 1979.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| WR | 18 | **Mark Nonsant (Jr., 2)**; 19 Eric Leister (Jr., 2) |
| LT | 70 | **Cornell Green (Jr., 2)**; Ray Gould (Sr., 1) |
| LG | 72 | **Ryan Gillis (Sr., 2)**; 69 John Beauchamp (Fr., 0) |
| C | 65 | **Bill Dayton (Jr., 1)**; 76 Chris Lorenti (Fr., 0) |
| RG | 71 | **Marcus Jenkins (Jr., 2)**; 74 Frank Harris (Jr., 1) |
| RT | 79 | Frank Haynes (So., 1); 62 David Wilson (So., 1) |
| TE | 83 | Dan Daniels (So., 1); 86 Joey Hubbard (Jr., 2) |
| QB | 8 | **Daunte Culpepper (Jr., 2)**; 14 Jason Thorpe (Jr., 1) |
| FB | | Dossy Robbins (Jr., 0); 35 Page Sessoms (So., 1) |
| TB | 21 | **Mike Huff (Sr., 3)**; 23 Edward Mack (So., ) |
| WR | 20 | Todd Cleveland (Sr., 2); **25 Rufus Hall (Sr., 2)**; |
| K | 29 | Fred Waczewski (Jr., 0); Patrick Frawley (Fr., 0) |

### DEFENSE (7)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | 88 | **Jermaine Benoit (Sr., 3)**; 89 Mike Osuna (Sr., 1) |
| DT | 91 | **Justen Moore (So., 1)**; 94 Jerod Durant (So., 1) |
| DT | 85 | Jeff Mauldin (Fr., 0); 93 Scott Dedelow (So., 1) |
| DE | 48 | **Jameil McWhorter (Sr., 3)**; 87 Marv Richardson (So., 1) |
| LB | | Chris Gunn (Jr., 0); 45 Emory Green (Sr., 2); |
| LB | 6 | Deaubrey Devine (So., 1); 59 Mike Ortego (Fr., 0) |
| LB | 41 | Mike Plamer (Jr., 1); 50 Mike Spencer (So., 1) |
| CB | 11 | **Davin Bush (So., 1)**; 28 Melvin Livermon (Fr., 0) |
| CB | 44 | Darryl Latimore (Sr., 3); **3 Reginald Doster (Jr., 2)** |
| SS | 37 | **Donnell Washington (Sr., 3)**; 22 Tyrell Rice (So., 1) |
| FS | 4 | **Kenton Rickerson (Sr., 3)**; 16 Altman Carter (Sr., 1) |
| P | 46 | Chad Downey (Jr., 0); Shane Hargett (Jr., 0) |

(#) Indicates number of returning starters **BOLD** indicates returning starters NUMBER after class indicates letters won

# Pittsburgh Panthers

**Head Coach .....Walt Harris**
**1996 Record (Big East)..4–7 (3–4)**
**1997 Prediction .....6th Big East**
**Home Field.....Pitt Stadium (56,150)**

It seems there were some similarities after all between Johnny Majors I and Johnny Majors II at the University of Pittsburgh.

Both terms lasted four seasons, and in both cases Majors was succeeded by a former assistant — Jackie Sherrill in 1977 and Walt Harris in 1997.

But there is one monumental difference, and therein lies the reason Harris' job is so much tougher than Sherrill's was — Majors I produced a 33–13–1 record and ended with the 1976 national championship; Majors II ended 12–32.

Billy West

David Graham

Harris, who was head coach at the University of the Pacific from 1989-91 after serving as offensive coordinator under Majors at Tennessee (1983-88), got a first-hand look at Pitt last season when Ohio State, where he was the quarterbacks coach, smashed the Panthers 72–0. He took the job anyway.

Majors was nice enough to leave behind 17 starters (nine offense, eight defense) from a team that went 3–3 over the last two months, defeating Big East weaklings Temple, Boston College and Rutgers.

But Harris said in the spring, "We're not worried about our two-deep roster because we're not that deep."

Burly junior Matt Lytle turned things around at midseason after a two-game benching and finished with 105 completions in 214 attempts (49.1 percent) for 1,249 yards and eight touchdowns, with six interceptions. With senior Pete Gonzalez, who got the two starts when Lytle sat, and promising sophomore Tony Zimmerman in reserve, quarterback depth is a bright spot.

The ground game should be strong with the return of seniors Billy West and Dwayne Schulters. West began the season at tailback, then switched to fullback when Schulters blossomed.

West was Big East Offensive Player of the Year in 1994, an injury victim in 1995 and last year's leading rusher with 687 yards. He is quick, powerful and explosive, a perfect fullback in Harris' pro set. Schulters, who has been timed at 4.44 in the 40, has great acceleration and a low center of gravity.

Chris Schneider, a 260-pound junior, started six games at fullback in '96. He is strictly a lead blocker.

Senior Jake Hoffart, who transferred coast-to-coast when Pacific dropped football after the 1995 season, was a pleasant surprise, scoring five touchdowns and averaging 17.1 yards on a team-leading 39 catches. Junior college transfer Jermaine Brooks should step in at the other wideout and add a sorely needed deep threat to the passing game.

Junior tight end John Jones, a fine athlete, caught 21 passes but dropped almost as many.

The Panthers' line has the size, strength and experience up front to improve on last year's rushing yardage and cut down on sacks. Four starters return: senior tackle Tony Orlandini, junior tackle Mike Schultz, senior guard Jon Marzoch and senior center Reggie Thomas, who will be moving to guard.

Pittsburgh's defense was riddled for 39.1 points per game. It finished last in the Big East in three of the four major defensive statistical caregories. Improvement must begin up front.

Junior Kenny Pegram and sophomore Demond Gibson return at the tackles. They are big and strong, and as they mature, they should make running inside difficult for Pitt opponents.

Three of the top four tacklers, middle linebacker Rod Humphrey and outside linebackers Ernest Coakley and Curtis McGhee, return for their senior years. But McGhee, the team's leading tackler with 86, is going back to strong safety, where he started the first half of '96 before switching positions. Coakley is an aggressive player who forced three fumbles last season.

**9** The number of national championships Pitt has won from every national authority that ever presumed to name a No. 1. Seven titles (1915, 1916, 1918, 1929, 1931, 1934 and 1936) were bestowed by groups other than the wire service polls, which voted Pitt No. 1 in 1937 and 1976.

Junior Phil Clarke and sophomore Ken Kashubara are competing for the opening created by McGhee's return to the secondary.

Senior John Jenkins returns at free safety. He finished second on the team with 63 tackles, which tells you that (1) Jenkins is pretty good at run support and (2) Pitt's front-line defense was rather porous. Juniors Chuck Brown and Rasshad Whitmill started in the corners last year. Whitmill led the team in interceptions with two.

Junior placekicker Chris Ferencik wasn't as accurate as he was in 1995, when he was one of five finalists for the Lou Groza Award. The punting job is wide open.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| WR | 9 | **Jake Hoffart (Sr., 1)**; 89 Vital Joseph (Sr., 3) |
| LT | 71 | **Mike Schultz (Jr., 1)**; 61 Ethan Weidle (So., 1) |
| LG | 76 | **Jon Marzoch (Sr., 2)**; 59 Jason Dugger (Jr., 0) |
| C | 72 | Jason Sepkowski (Sr., 1); 54 Andrew Grischow (Jr., 1) |
| RG | 56 | **Reggie Thomas (Sr., 3)**;74 Ben Kopp (So., 1); |
| RT | 77 | **Tony Orlandini (Sr. 3)**; 73 Rodney Epps (Sr., 0) |
| TE | 86 | **John Jones (Jr., 2)**; 88 Kirk McMullen (So.,1) |
| QB | 8 | **Matt Lytle (Jr., 2)**; 10 Pete Gonzalez (Sr., 2) |
| FB | 32 | Chris Schneider (Jr., 2); 49 Ken Konek (Sr., 1) |
| TB | 20 | **Billy West (Sr., 3); 24Dwayne Schulters (Sr., 1)** |
| WR | | Jermaine Brooks (Jr., 0); 16 Leon Murray (So., 1) |
| K | 37 | **Chris Ferencik (Jr., 2)** |

### DEFENSE (8)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | 97 | Jason Soboleski (Sr., 1); 50 Trey McCray (So., 1) |
| DT | 62 | **Kenny Pegram (Jr., 2)**; 70 Frank Moore (Sr., 3) |
| DT | 94 | **Demond Gibson (So., 1)**; 70 Frank Moore (Sr., 3) |
| DE | 92 | Marlin Young (Jr., 2); 96 Chris Dilba (So.,1) |
| LB | 80 | **Ernest Coakley (Sr., 1)**; 91 Djems Don (So., 1) |
| LB | 51 | **Rod Humphrey (Sr., 3)**; 45 Julian Graham (So., 1) |
| LB | 95 | Phil Clarke (Jr., 2); 53 Ken Kashubara (So., 1) |
| CB | 4 | **Chuck Brown (Jr., 2)**; 34 E.C. Varoutsos (Jr., 1) |
| CB | 2 | **Rasshad Whitmill (Jr., 2)**; 34 E.C. Varoutsos (Jr., 1) |
| SS | 35 | **Curtis McGhee (Sr., 3)**; 26 Seth Hornack (So., 1) |
| FS | 15 | **John Jenkins (Sr., 3)**; 43 Dawan Owens (Fr., 0) |
| P | 23 | Kevin Bever (Jr., 0) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

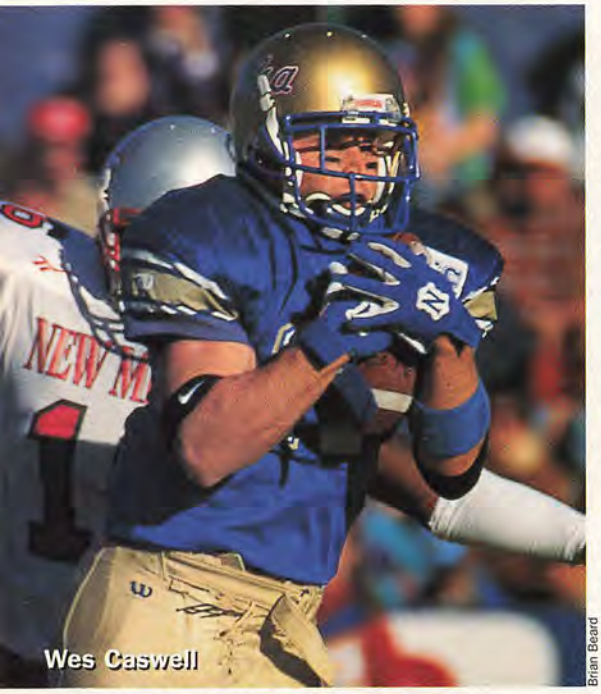
# Tulsa Golden Hurricane

Head Coach .....Dave Rader
1996 Record (WAC) .....4–7 (2–6)
1997 Prediction .....5th WAC Mountain
Home Field.....Skelly Stadium (40,385)

As they watched November's Tulsa-Texas Christian game from opposing sides, Tulsa coach Dave Rader and TCU defensive coordinator Pat Henderson made the same discovery.

Tulsa was having trouble stopping the Horned Frogs from running all over the place.

Now that he's Tulsa's defensive coordinator, that's Henderson's problem — and Rader's solution.


Wes Caswell

Brian Beard

After shocking Iowa and Oklahoma and shutting down Colorado State, Tulsa suddenly turned vulnerable. A 55–30 loss to Brigham Young sent the season spinning in the wrong direction. The Hurricane lost five of its final six games, allowing at least 31 points in each defeat, and went from a WAC Mountain Division contender to a seventh-place finisher.

So Henderson's in Tulsa, bringing an offensive philosophy to the defensive side, trying to revive a unit that ranked 12th in the 16-team WAC — and a distant last among Mountain Division schools.

New offensive coordinator Rockey Felker understands that playing in the WAC often means having to survive scoring contests.

"The big difference for me is getting into a more wide-open conference," said Felker, who spent four seasons in the Southeastern Conference.

That means, essentially, asking more of junior quarterback John Fitzgerald, who completed only 48 percent of his passes. Injuries kept him out of three games, when Troy DeGar did most of the quarterbacking. Now that DeGar is gone, Tulsa needs to keep Fitzgerald healthy. He's not a runner like DeGar, but Fitzgerald can maneuver to avoid pressure.

While trying for a balanced approach, "We hope to be a much better throwing team," says Felker.

Tulsa's offense is built around the tailback, and Reggie Williams and Solomon White teamed for almost 1,500 yards. Williams, a short, powerful junior, should post impressive numbers. He missed three games as a freshman with a pulled hamstring and most of two games as a sophomore with a hand injury.

Sophomore Charlie Higgins started at wingback and was productive in limited running and pass-catching opportunities. Higgins will be the backup tailback and senior Jason Bennett will be the wingback.

Partly because Williams and White were interchangeable for two years, senior Wes Caswell is the player WAC defensive coordinators think of first when discussing the Tulsa offense.

"He's productive, tough and runs great routes," says Kyle Whittingham, Utah's defensive coordinator.

Caswell had 49 catches, while Damon Savage added 37 as a freshman.

Senior Mark Lippe, a three-year letterman, is the likely starter at tight end.

Tulsa's offensive line played acceptably, and three starters return. But one of the departed players was guard Brian Newnam, the most effective Hurricane lineman. Junior Ben Barber is in a battle to replace him.

Senior Michael Ruhl is back at quick tackle and senior Brad Smith returns at quick guard, each having started for two seasons. Junior Brian Pollan gets the first shot to open at center, while junior Jason Mills is the strong tackle.

Tulsa lost defensive end Salifu Abudulai and his 12 sacks, but 6–7 senior tackle Sean O'Boyle recorded six sacks (three against Iowa) and causing three fumbles. Athletic junior Tim Martin returns at tackle.

Sophomores Josh Martin and Carlos Hopkins are expected to provide a better pass rush. One move coaches hope will help to offset Abudulai's graduation was shifting senior Jody Sparks from outside linebacker to defensive end.

**107** Tulsa ranked 107th among 111 Division I-A teams in rushing defense last season, allowing 264 yards a game and 29 touchdowns for the year.

Senior Rich Young was productive as a reserve and can play either outside linebacker position. Sophomore Andrew LeCrone replaces Sparks on the outside. Henderson likes the way juniors Allen Blackmon and Donald Perry can run and is eager to find places for them.

Senior Terrance Joseph is moving from cornerback to become one of the aggressive run-stopping safeties Henderson seeks. Senior Levi Gillen, the team's No. 2 tackler, is the other safety.

Junior Marshall Gordon was impressive in off-season workouts and returns at one cornerback. Sophomore Todd Franz is contending at the spot opposite him.

With 45 career field goals, senior James Anderson needs only nine more to become the school's career leader.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| WR | **8** | **Damon Savage (So., 1)**; 2 Lyndon Nixon (Jr., 2) |
| LT | **79** | **Michael Ruhl (Sr., 3)**; 63 Matt Bing (Jr., 2) |
| LG | **52** | **Brad Smith (Sr., 3)**; 71 Bobby Weeks (So., 0) |
| C | 51 | Brian Pollan (Jr., 0); 65 Steve Schiller (Fr., 0) |
| RG | 53 | Ben Barber (Jr., 0); 78 Anthony Ratica (So., 0) |
| RT | **68** | **Jason Mills (Jr., 2)**; 62 Shannon Peterson (Fr., 0) |
| TE | 80 | Mark Lippe (Sr., 3); 91 Jimmy Jett (So., 0) |
| QB | 16 | John Fitzgerald (Jr., 2); 12 Michael Wall (Fr., 0) |
| WB | 47 | Jason Bennett (Sr., 3); 22 Spencer Braggs (So., 1) |
| TB | **1** | **Reggie Williams (Jr., 2)**; **26 Charlie Higgins (So., 1)** |
| WR | **11** | **Wes Caswell (Sr., 3)**; 89 Corey Brown (Fr., 0) |
| K | **20** | **James Anderson (Sr., 3)**; 10 Derek Nordstrom (So., 0) |

### DEFENSE (6)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | 92 | Josh Martin (So., 1); 54 Carlos Hopkins (So., 1) |
| DT | **96** | **Tim Martin (Jr., 2)**; 93 Ryan Farley (Jr., 2) |
| DT | **98** | **Sean O'Boyle (Sr., 3)**; 73 John Lang (Sr., 3) |
| DE | **24** | **Jody Sparks (Sr., 2)**; 67 Chris Odom (Fr., 0) |
| LB | 39 | Donald Perry (Jr., 0); 6 Brian Self (Sr., 3) |
| LB | 3 | Rich Young (Sr., 1); 37 Jeremy McClure (So., 0) |
| LB | 43 | Andrew LeCrone (So., 0); 46 Ashon Farley (Fr., 0) |
| CB | **13** | **Marshall Gordon (Jr., 2)**; 38 Wade Clark (Sr., 3) |
| CB | 4 | Todd Franz (So., 1); 9 Sedrick Lusk (Fr., 0) |
| SS | **10** | **Terrance Joseph (Sr., 3)**; 29 Adonis Peil (Jr., 2) |
| FS | **25** | **Levi Gillen (Sr., 2)**; 40 Asher Ladner (Jr., 2) |
| P | **18** | **Kirk Myrick (Sr., 1)**; 16 John Fitzgerald (Jr., 2) |

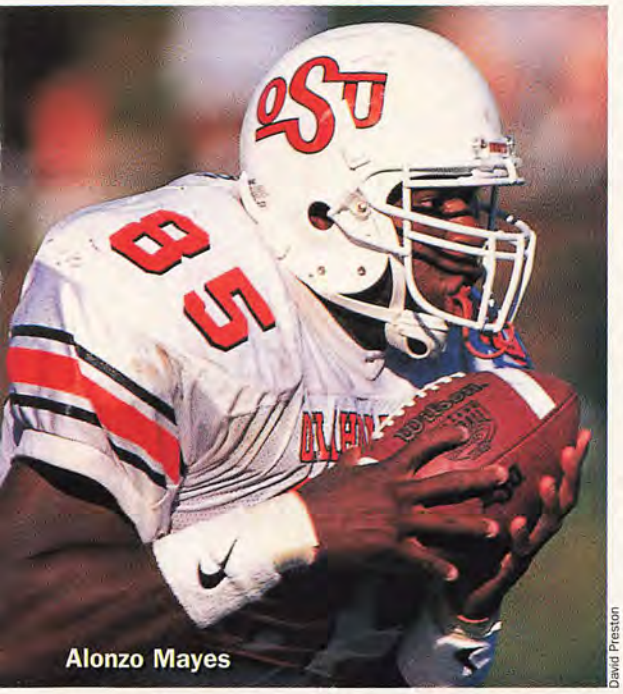
*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Oklahoma State Cowboys

**Head Coach .....Bob Simmons**
**1996 Record (Big 12) ....5–6 (2–6)**
**1997 Prediction .....6th Big 12 South**
**Home Field.....Lewis Field (50,614)**

Change is good. That's been Bob Simmons' approach in two seasons as Oklahoma State's head coach. Before last season, he told his players "every position is up for grabs."

Simmons was true to his word, never using the same 22 starters. More than 40 Cowboys started at least once, including 12 true or redshirt freshmen.



Alonzo Mayes

David Preston

Simmons even used the week off before the final game against Baylor to re-evaluate players. In addition to changing lineups, he changed his defensive front before the ninth game against Texas A&M, replacing his 3–4 alignment with a 4–3.

At quarterback sophomore Chris Chaloupka has the most experience, including one start. He played in five other games, all but one sparingly, before being sidelined by a fractured hand. And his numbers aren't impressive: 15-of-45, 269 yards, one touchdown, one interception.

Joe Phears, a junior college transfer, has a strong arm but little experience, despite being a senior. Tony Lindsay, a redshirt freshman, is the best athlete of the three but has no experience.

Senior Andre Richardson and sophomore Nathan Simmons will try to pick up some of the slack at running back left when David Thompson graduated.

Richardson was chosen Big Eight Freshman of the Year in 1994 after rushing for 774 yards, 30 short of the school record for a freshman. He rushed for 705 yards as a sophomore but his numbers dropped to 447 last season. Still, he averaged 5.0 yards per carry. Without a doubt, he has the credentials to become the showcase back..

Simmons, the coach's son, carried only 17 times, a number that could increase significantly. Junior fullback Brian Aikins showed he could run in a pinch as well as block, averaging 5.1 yards and scoring two touchdowns on 20 carries.

After the Cowboys scored 30 and 31 points in consecutive victories to go 3–1 at the start last season, senior tight end Alonzo Mayes said they were "getting that mean streak in us." They couldn't keep it, however.

Mayes poses a serious offensive threat, if the quarterback can get him the ball. He led the team in receptions, with 30 for 512 yards and three touchdowns in 10 games. Mayes is athletic and physically imposing enough to play basketball for Eddie Sutton.

Junior Terrance Richardson is a proven receiver, who is willing to make tough catches despite his size (5–9). He was second to Mayes in receptions with 29 for 376 yards and two touchdowns. Junior Willie Grissom began last season as a starter, lost his job, then got it back.

The interior offensive line was stable compared to the rest of the team. Senior Calvin Menephee, a huge tackle, became a starter and held the job the rest of the way. Versatile but undersized senior Josh Henson (6–2, 250) started every game, playing center or guard. And junior Jeremy Offutt started from the fifth game on at guard, after beginning the season as a tackle.

Sophomore Adam Davis was a starter at guard until the Colorado game, when he suffered a broken fibula and was sidelined for the season.

The defensive line was a source of constant consternation for defense-minded Simmons. Oklahoma State ranked 97th nationally in rushing defense. Junior Jamal Williams is back after a stint at Kemper Military Academy to regain academic eligibility. Senior Brandon Ashley and sophomores Denshio Cook and Cortney Mallory played before they were ready. Six of the Cowboys' top 12 tacklers last season were defensive backs. Not a good sign.

**103** The number of players who reported for spring practice. The most since the Cowboys came off late-1980s probation, maybe most ever.

Sophomore Raymond Cato was one of the few constants on defense at weak-side linebacker. He was by far the leading tackler, with 119 tackles, 47 more than sophomore outside linebacker Kenyatta Wright. Junior Andrel Waddle was a starter at outside linebacker prior to the A&M game. Juniors Joshua Green, Taber LeBlanc and Jermaine Birdow all started at least once as the Cowboys looked for the right combination.

Junior R.W. McQuarters is another glimmer in what is mostly a gloomy picture. He was moved from cornerback to free safety to make him the focus of the secondary. Sophomores Alvin Porter and J.B. Flowers traded off starting at right cornerback. Junior college transfer Ricky Thompson is expected to play immediately.

Senior Jason Davis averaged 44.03 yards per punt to rank fifth in the Big 12 and 18th in the nation. Sophomore Tim Sydnes tied for third in the conference and 28th nationally, making 12-of-19 field goals.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

**WR 80 Willie Grissom (Jr., 2)**; 4 Sean Love (Jr., 1)
**LT 71 Calvin Menephee (Sr., 3)**; 75 David Camacho (Sr., 1)
**LG 62 Josh Henson (Sr., 2)**; 72 Blaine Cook (So., 1)
**C 60 Reynell Lavigne (So., 1)**; 73 Josh Lind (So., 1)
**RG** 78 Adam Davis (So., 1); 79 George Arceo (Sr., 1)
**RT 70 Jeremy Offutt (Jr., 2)**; 69 Kevin Kemp (So., 1)
**TE 85 Alonzo Mayes (Sr., 3)**; 87 Greg Brown (Jr., 2)
**QB** 8 Chris Chaloupka (So., 1); 10 Tony Lindsay (Fr., 0)
**FB 45 Brian Aikins (Jr., 2)**; 30 Kevin Brown (So., 1)
**TB** 25 Andre Richardson (Sr., 3) 1 Nathan Simmons (So., 1)
**WR 3 Terrance Richardson (Jr., 2)**; 18 Tank Coleman (So., 1)
**K 14 Tim Sydnes (So., 1)**; 15 Seth Condley (So., 0)

### DEFENSE (6)

**DE 56 Brandon Ashley (Sr., 1)**; 95 Alton Weaver (Sr., 0)
**DT 93 Denshio Cook (So., 1)**; 90 Zachary Akin (So., 0)
**DT** 92 Cortney Mallory (So., 1); 99 Jamal Williams (Sr., 1)
**OLB** 42 Andrel Waddle (Jr., 2); 99 Taber LeBlanc (Jr., 2)
**LB** 32 Tarrell Knauls (Jr., 1); 37 Justin Thomas (So., 1)
**LB 7 Kenyatta Wright (So., 1)**; 44 Billy Stone (Jr., 2)
**OLB 22 Raymond Cato (So., 1)**; 54 Joshua Green (Jr., 2)
**CB** 9 Alvin Porter (So., 1); 19 Ricky Thompson (Jr., 0)
**CB 29 J.B. Flowers (So., 1)**; 5 Kevin Williams (Sr., 3)
**SS** 31 Chris Carter (So., 1); 15 Adam Edwards (So., 0)
**FS 17 R.W. McQuarters (Jr., 2)**; 6 Chris Thompson (Jr., 0)
**P 20 Jason Davis (Sr., 1)**;

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# TCU Horned Frogs

**Head Coach** .....**Pat Sullivan**
**1996 Record (WAC)** .....**4–7 (3–5)**
**1997 Prediction** .....**6th WAC Mountain**
**Home Field**.....**Amon G. Carter Stadium (46,000)**

Improved defensive pressure, fewer injuries and a healthy dose of competition at quarterback are elements that Texas Christian coach Pat Sullivan is counting on to lift the Horned Frogs into contention in the WAC.

After posting consecutive winning seasons for the first time in three decades, TCU dipped to 4–7 in its WAC debut, a season marred by off-field distractions and the loss of 14 starters to injury. Jay Davern, the leading tackler, and wide receiver Jason Tucker, a big-play threat, were dismissed from the team by Sullivan.

Basil Mitchell

Layne Murdoch

Quarterback Jeff Dover generally played well as a freshman starter in 1996. But with injuries decimating his offensive line and receivers, Dover rarely got the ball downfield (6.6 yards per attempt). He'll be pushed sophomore transfers with stronger arms, Derek Canine and Kevin Colon.

TCU's "think-and-dink" passing scheme and its ground game both rely on junior Basil Mitchell. Among returnees, Mitchell (team-high 953 rushing yards and 40 receptions) accounts for 88.9 percent of the team's ground attack and 36.7 percent of its catches. Tulsa coach Dave Rader termed Mitchell's blend of speed and slashing moves "devastating" after the elusive cutback runner amassed a career-high 215 yards in a 31–24 victory over the Golden Hurricane.

Redshirt freshman Charles Jones, a 4.4 sprinter with good vision and quickness, likely will be Mitchell's backup. Junior fullback Lance Williams, Mitchell's lead blocker during the second half of '96, is a capable power runner but needs work as a receiver. He'll be pressed for playing time by versatile Lou Porch, a junior-college transfer with soft hands as a pass catcher and a stocky build for blocking.

Tucker was the Horned Frogs' only proven downfield threat. Junior Tavarus Moore, sophomores Patrick Batteaux and Torrie Simmons, and redshirt freshman Tim Maiden, all have ample speed but were hampered by injuries last fall.

Senior Mike Brown and junior Travis Wilson, the available tight ends with experience, are dependable targets as well as quick, agile blockers.

TCU's offensive line is a work in progress, with no player who ended 1996 as a starter slated to open at the same position in '97. The availability of a probable first-teamer, junior J.P. McFarland, will not be determined until he and three former Horned Frogs stand trial on charges stemming from a May 1996 incident outside a Fort Worth nightclub.

Junior quick tackle Jon Donahue, the team's best pass blocker, is coming off shoulder surgery that limited him to one game in '96 and kept him out of spring drills. The best overall lineman, senior Mark Cortez, has been shifted from tackle to center, while junior Greg Davis moves from quick to strong tackle.

Under new defensive coordinator Phil Bennett, TCU will stress speed over size up front. Senior Matt Harper, the top pass rusher, may be shifted from end to tackle. Senior Chance McCarty, a converted quarterback, is expected to add a quick pass rush. This unit will be faster, but the tackles — junior Marcus Anderson and sophomores J.W. Wilson and Akili Johnson — will give away more than 20 pounds per man to most opposing linemen.

Harper possesses the quickness and strength to repeat as an All-WAC performer. He'll need help, though, if the TCU defense is to improve sufficiently to make the Frogs a conference contender.

The loss of Davern, TCU's most active defender last season, leaves a gaping hole at linebacker.

Senior middle linebacker Scott Taft will shoulder most of the pressure. Junior Jason Illian showed enough savvy in off-season work to convince coaches to slide Kam Hunt to defensive end. Hunt was later moved back to replace Davern.

**118** Number of rushing yards in 1996 by current TCU players other than Basil Mitchell. The main man ground out 953 yards (5.0 per attempt), while his fellow returnees averaged just 1.5 on 85 carries.

The safeties, sophomore Reggie Hunt and senior Chris Staten, are emerging stars. Two of the top four cornerbacks, sophomore Terrance Cook and junior Andre Bruce, are 4.5 sprinters converted from running back.

Senior Michael Reeder, winner of the 1995 Lou Groza Award, connected on just 55 percent of his field goals last fall. Reeder must recapture the form he showed as a sophomore, when he hit 23-of-25 field goals and did not miss from inside 47 yards. Sophomore punter Royce Huffman has a strong leg (42.6-yard average) and a knack for avoiding touchbacks (10 kicks downed inside the 20-yard line).

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

**WR** 82 Tavarus Moore (Jr., 2); 38 Torrie Simmons (So., 1)
**LT** 74 Jon Donahue (Jr., 2); 61 David Bobo (Fr., 0)
**LG** 79 Doug Loeser (Sr., 1); Anthony Bielski (Jr., 0)
**C** **67 Mark Cortez (Sr., 3)**; 73 Thad Teaford (Jr., 2)
**RG** 69 J.P. McFarland (Jr., 2); 53 Shane Ladewig (Fr., 0)
**RT** **64 Greg Davis (Jr., 2)**; 71 Paul Harmon (So., 0)
**TE** 87 Mike Brown (Sr., 1); **88 Travis Wilson (Jr., 2)**
**QB** **4 Jeff Dover (So., 1)**; 7 Derek Canine (So., 0)
**FB** 35 Lance Williams (Jr., 2); 22 Lou Porch (Jr., 0)
**TB** **3 Basil Mitchell (Jr., 2)**; 23 Charles Jones (Fr., 0)
**WR** 19 Patrick Batteaux (So., 1); 1 Timothy Maiden (Fr., 0)
**K** **17 Michael Reeder (Sr., 3)**

### DEFENSE (5)

**DE** **91 Matt Harper (Sr., 1)**; 89 Kyle Williams (So., 1)
**NT** **66 Marcus Anderson (Jr., 2)**; 98 Akili Johnson (So., 1)
**DT** 75 J.W. Wilson (So., 1); 62 Joe Briggs (So., 1)
**DE** 99 Chance McCarty (Sr., 3); 83 Quincy Lunford (Fr., 0)
**LB** 48 Kam Hunt (Jr., 2); 46 Cody Mortenson (Jr., 2)
**LB** **51 Scott Taft (Sr., 3)**; 49 Marvin Mullins (Jr., 2)
**LB** 37 Jason Ilian (Jr., 2); 47 Terrance Maiden (Fr., 0)
**CB** 6 Corey Masters (Sr., 3); 21 Andre Bruce (Jr., 2)
**CB** 16 Terrance Cook (So., 1); 31 Barry Browning (Jr., 1)
**SS** **2 Reggie Hunt (So., 1)**; 33 Russell Gary (So., 1)
**FS** **18 Chris Staten (Sr., 2)**; 26 Lenward Bentley (Jr., 2)
**P** **12 Royce Huffman (So, 1)**

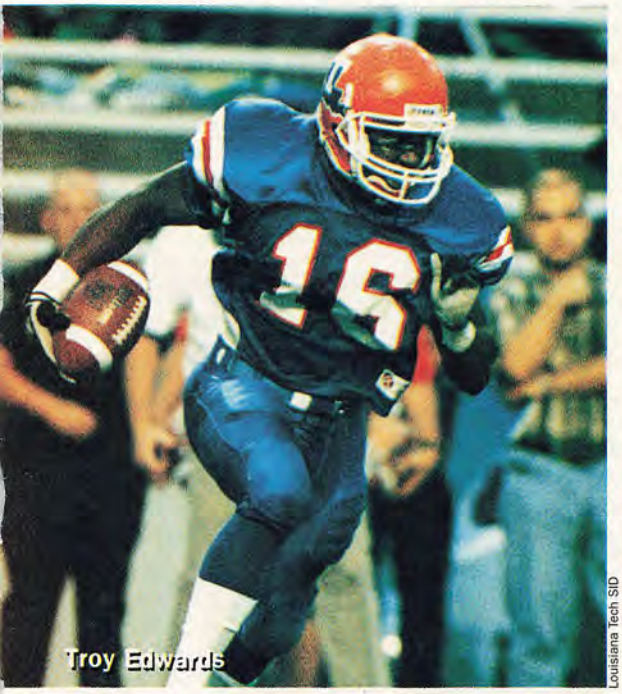
*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Louisiana Tech Bulldogs

**Head Coach** .....Gary Crowton
**1996 Record**.....6-5
**Home Field**.....Joe Aillet Stadium (30,600)

Louisiana Tech plays as an independent these days, but the schedule has a decidedly Southeastern Conference flavor. The 1997 slate has the Bulldogs visiting SEC opponents Alabama, Arkansas and Auburn. They also meet California of the Pac-10 down the road in Shreveport.

The Bulldogs may also have a somewhat different look after finishing third nationally in passing (343.5 yards a game), but only 91st in rushing (112.5). Five starters return on offense and eight on defense, but record-breaking quarterback Jason Martin, who threw for 3,360 yards and 32 touchdowns last year, and is Tech's all-time leader in every passing category, has graduated.


Troy Edwards

Louisiana Tech SID

Second-year coach Gary Crowton has high hopes for sophomore quarterback Tim Rattay, who redshirted last season after transferring from Scottsdale (Ariz.) Community College, where he led the nation's junior colleges in 1995 with 3,526 yards and 28 touchdowns.

"Rattay has done well so far," Crowton says. "He's very intelligent and he's a lot more mobile than Jason Martin. He has a quick release that, combined with his mobility, really helps him. He has great vision, he's fun to watch and he is a very charismatic player."

Behind Rattay is redshirt freshman Dave Newman, a prospect who stands 6–7 and weighs 230 pounds.

There are two promising tailbacks in junior Jason Armstrong and sophomore Bobby Ray Tell. Armstrong, a part-time starter in 1995 when he rushed for 689 yards and seven touchdowns and caught 18 passes, sat out last season when a spring knee injury required surgery. Tell rushed for 424 yards, including 121 against Central Michigan when he gained 102 in the fourth quarter.

"Bobby Ray is stronger and more mature physically," Crowton says. "Jason is getting stronger every day. He started the spring a little tentative, but he's quickly getting back to old form. We feel like we'll have a real good 1-2 punch."

Junior fullback Terence Wilson, a physical runner and tenacious blocker, is back from a medical redshirt season (knee) that limited him to one carry. Sophomore Tyler Lasseigne stepped in when Wilson went down and proved an able blocker. Although he carried only four times, he caught the ball twice for a two-point conversions.

Junior Troy Edwards, who caught 38 passes for 649 yards and 10 touchdowns, returns at receiver. Edwards has speed, strength and a knack for getting to the ball.

Junior-college transfer Devon Long, who caught 38 passes for five touchdowns on the receiving end of Rattay's passes at Scottsdale C.C. in 1995, is the other wideout.

Senior All-American Josh Bradley (6–7, 275), led the nation's tight ends in 1996 with seven touchdown catches. He is second on Tech's career list for tight ends with 85 receptions.

Offensive line is one of the main strengths of the Bulldogs' offense. The line surrendered just eight sacks in 475 pass attempts last season, and four of the five starters are back. Senior tackle Chris Crudup, at 6–11, 375, is the largest player in Division I-A.

He is joined by three other seniors: tackle Clay Hopkins, guard Justin Moss and center Robert Saums. Sophomore Joey Chustz is set to inherit the vacant guard position.

There is plenty of experience on the defensive line with three returning starters. Junior nose guard Otis Pitts and sophomore tackle Jarrett Procell will anchor the line, with senior William Mayes at one end. Senior Steve Johnson and sophomore Desmond Nunnery will vie for the other end position.

All three linebacker starters return. Seniors Gomeya Cooper in the middle and Myron Smith on the strong side recorded 129 and 98 tackles respectively. Junior Adrian Fredericks is the other returning starter (94 tackles), but he could be challenged by senior Derrick Parker, who moves up from strong safety.

Strong safety Eric Starks and free safety John Noel, both seniors, will anchor the secondary, which lost both cornerbacks. Noel had 129 tackles and four interceptions a year ago. Junior Aaron Puckett should take over one corner; sophomore Dewey Simpson has dibs on the other.

**1** The number of touchdown catches that All-American candidate Josh Brady totaled last season to lead the nation among tight ends.

Tech has one of the country's premier placekickers in senior Marty Kent, a finalist for the 1996 Lou Groza Award. Sophomore punter David Lill showed promise, averaging 39.0 yards.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

**WR** **16 Troy Edwards (Jr., 1)**; 81 Sean Cangelosi (Fr., 0)
**LT** **71 Chris Crudup (Sr., 3)**; 69 Shawn O'Toole (Jr., 1)
**LG** 58 Justin Moss (Sr., 1); 52 Josh Yankowsky (Jr., 0)
**C** **64 Robert Saums (Sr., 1)**; 65 Rob Koontz (So., 1)
**RG** 66 Joey Chustz (So., 1); 65 Rob Koontz (So., 1)
**RT** **55 Clay Hopkins (Sr., 3)**; Max Landry (Fr., 0)
**TE** **86 Josh Bradley (Sr., 2)**; 83 Jason Powers (Sr., 3)
**QB** 13 Tim Rattay (So., 0); 18 Dave Newman (Fr., 0)
**FB** 20 Terence Wilson (Jr., 2); 32 Terry Pratt (Jr., 0)
**TB** 24 Jason Armstrong (Jr., 2); 22 Bobby Ray Tell (So., 1)
**WR** Devon Long (Jr., 0); 3 Larry Wright (Jr., 0)
**K** **41 Marty Kent (Sr., 3)**

### DEFENSE (8)

**DE** 59 Desmond Nunnery (So., 1); 36 Lionel Florence (Sr., 0)
**NG** **94 Otis Pitts (Jr., 1)**; 96 Chris Willis (So., 1)
**DT** **93 Jarrett Procell (So., 1)**; 76 Jason Dunbar (So., 0)
**DE** **92 William Mayes (Sr., 1)**; Steve Johnson (Sr.,3)
**LB** 1 Derrick Parker (Sr., 3); **42 Adrian Fredericks (Jr., 2)**
**LB** **11 Gomeya Cooper (Sr., 1)**; 97 Damon Harrington (So., 1)
**LB** **21 Myron Smith (Sr., 3)**; 53 Quincy Stewart (Fr., 0)
**CB** 29 Dewey Simpson (Fr., 0); 10 Daniel Willis (Jr., 0)
**CB** 26 Aaron Puckett (Jr., 2); 30 Roderick Pernetter (Fr., 0)
**SS** **44 Eric Starks (Sr., 3)**; 84 Charles Bowman (Jr., 0)
**FS** **45 John Noel (Sr., 1)**; 31 Jedediah Reed (Fr., 0)
**P** **14 David Lill (So., 1)**

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* **BOLD** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

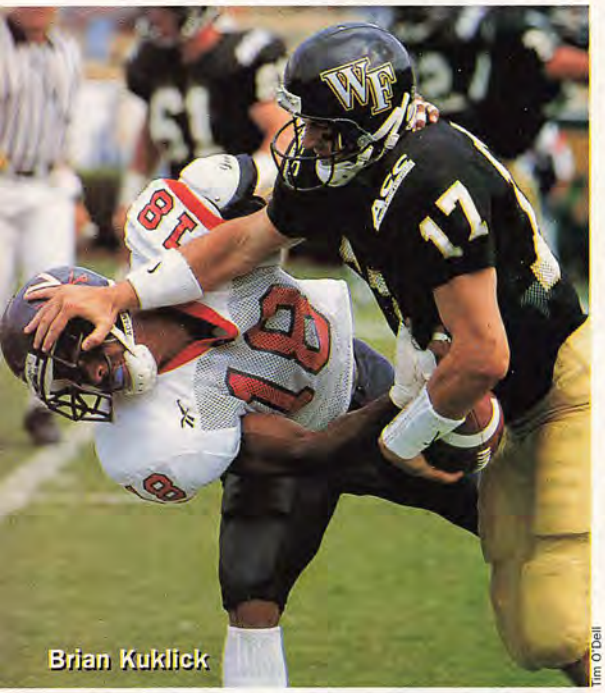
# Wake Forest Demon Deacons

Head Coach .....Jim Caldwell
1996 Record (ACC).....3–8 (1–7)
1997 Prediction .....8th ACC
Home Field.....Groves Stadium (31,500)

Wake Forest coach Jim Caldwell says this will be a different Wake Forest team than in the past few years.

The Demon Deacon faithful sure hope so. Most fans who watched Wake Forest upset Northwestern 28–27 last September, thought that's what they had just seen. But no.

By season's end, Wake Forest ranked 94th or worse in five major categories and had lost eight games. Northwestern, meanwhile, had tied for its second consecutive Big Ten championship. (Perhaps Wake fans can take solice knowing that Athlon ranked Northwestern 79th prior to their breakthrough year.)


Brian Kuklick

Tim O'Dell

Recruiting has been a problem, but Caldwell is confident he is slowly working toward a winning program.

"Over the years where we've had concerns — size and strength in our interior, where games are won by controlling the line of scrimmage — we continue to make progress," Caldwell insists. Now 280-300-pounders are not a rarity on the practice field.

Though a junior, quarterback Brian Kuklick, the ACC's total offense leader (2,454 yards), actually has only one season of experience. As a freshmen, he beat out incumbent Rusty LaRue but a broken arm in the second game cost him the rest of the season.

Kuklick has a strong arm and moves well in and out of the pocket but needs to improve his decision-making to cut down on interceptions. His 11 scoring passes included two fourth-quarter bombs that stunned Northwestern. For the season, Kuklick completed 205 of 396 passes for 2,526 yards to lead the ACC, but he allowed 13 interceptions and his efficiency rating was only 108.0.

Kuklick will be pushed by Ben Sankey, heavier at 214, yet faster with intangibles.

Running back Morgan Kane, a Canadian who grabbed the attention of opponents with a 131-yard game against Clemson (the first 100-yard game by a Wake Forest back against the Tigers in 20 years) and an 80-yard touchdown run against Florida State, should be ready to break loose at tailback. He combines power with speed.

The fullback is primarily a blocker, but plans are to involve Wande Shaw more as a ball carrier.

Pro scouts will be watching Wake's duo of split end Desmond Clark and flanker Thabiti Davis, who totaled 121 catches and ranked second and third in the ACC. Clark is 6–3, 238, a physical receiver and tough as nails. Davis goes 6–3, 207.

In their many sets, the Deacons also use Jammie Deese, a 4.4 sprinter who doubles as a kick returner.

The tight ends, Joe Zelenka and Willie Lam are excellent blockers.

Both starting guards were lost to graduation, but a solid nucleus returns to the offensive line in center Chris Gaskell, tackle Jeff Flowe and tackle Brian Wolverton.

Flowe, a 305-pounder excels in pass protection. He is recovering from off-season knee surgery. Wolverton is a relentless, physical worker who keeps getting better. Taris Clark and 312-pound Sam Settar have dibs on the guard slots.

The increase in size is also evident across the line. Tackle Aljamont Joyner, coming off a productive year with 58 hits, is 6–3, 303; tackle Fred Robbins (51 tackles) is even heavier at 312.

At the ends are Da'Vaughn Mellerson, a 290-pounder, and Robert Fatzinger, 270, who missed several games with a hand injury.

Wake's defense starts with junior middle linebacker Kelvin Moses, a hard-hitting tackling leader since his first day on campus. Last season, he was the fourth-best tackler in the ACC with 128 stops, 10 for losses. For a player who bench-presses 420 pounds, a 200-pound back is a sack of potatoes.

The Demon, or outside linebacker position, is in the capable and seasoned hands of David Zadel, big, strong and quick enough to be used as a pass rusher. The three-year veteran has 63 tackles.

Jon Mannon and Dustin Lyman, who alternated at the other linebacking position, will battle it out again. After Moses, Lyman, with 79 hits, is the top returning tackler.

> In Game 1, the Deacons again host Northwestern. Can Wake Forest repeat last year's sensational one-point (28–27) upset?

Cornerback D'Angelo Solomon, the secondary leader, should have an all-star senior season. Terrence Suber steps in for the graduated Major Griffey. Suber was a three-year starter before being hurt last year. The safety positions will be manned by DaLawn Parrish and Jeffrey Muyres.

There is room for improvement in the kicking game. Matthew Burdick, a Winston-Salem kid, has a strong leg with long field-goal and kickoff range. He won the job in midseason and made two of three field-goal attempts. Punter Tripp Moore, needs to pad his 37.7 average a couple of yards.

The Deacons must improve special teams protection that allowed three blocked field goals and two blocked punts.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | **83 Desmond Clark (Jr., 2)**; Kai Sneed (Sr., 2) |
| LT | **72 Jeff Flowe (Jr., 2)**; 77 Brian Walls (So., 0) |
| LG | 60 Sam Settar (So., 1); 75 John Whitehead (Fr., 0) |
| C | **65 Chris Gaskell (Sr., 2)**; 66 Todd Hollowell (So., 0) |
| RG | 69 Taris Clark (Sr., 2); 57 Wilmot Spires (Jr., 0) |
| RT | **76 Brian Wolverton (So., 1)**; Brian Walls (So., 0) |
| TE | **85 Joe Zelenka (Jr., 2)**; 39 James Lik (So., 0) |
| QB | **17 Brian Kuklick (Jr., 2)**; 13 Ben Sankey (So., 1) |
| FB | **42 Wande Shaw (Jr., 2)**; 32 Gardell Chavis (.,) |
| RB | **22 Morgan Kane (So., 1)**; 26 Herman Lewis (Sr., 2) |
| FL | **81 Thabiti Davis (Sr., 3)**; 21 Jammie Deese (So., 1) |
| K | 4 Matthew Burdick (So., 1) |

### DEFENSE (9)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | 96 Da'Vaughn Mellerson (So., 1); 70 Clinton Wilburn (So.,1) |
| DT | **90 Fred Robbins (So., 1)**; 73 Kelvin Shackleford (So., 1) |
| DT | **95 Aljamont Joyner (Sr., 3)**; 56 Rufus Taylor (So., 1) |
| DE | **84 Robert Fatzinger (Sr., 3)**; 70 Clinton Wilburn (So., 1) |
| LB | **94 David Zadel (Sr., 3)**; 48 Mark Makovec (Jr., 2) |
| LB | **49 Kelvin Moses (Jr., 2)**; 34 Abdul Guice (So., 1) |
| LB | **55 Jon Mannon (Jr., 2)**; **43 Dustin Lyman (So., 1)** |
| CB | **3 D'Angelo Solomon (Sr., 3)**; 24 Dameon Daniel (Jr., 2) |
| CB | 11 Terrence Suber (Sr., 3); 23 Reggie Austin (So., 1) |
| SS | 5 DaLawn Parrish (So., 1); 28 David Moore (So., 1) |
| FS | **38 Jeffrey Muyres (Jr., 2)**; 27 Kenyon Chavis (.,) |
| P | **18 Tripp Moore (Jr., 1)** |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Iowa State Cyclones

**Head Coach .....Dan McCarney**
**1996 Record (Big 12) ....2–9 (1–7)**
**1997 Prediction .....6th Big 12 North**
**Home Field.....Cyclone Stadium-Jack Trice Field (43,000)**

Iowa State coach Dan McCarney is hoping substance follows form. "Anyone who walks in can see that we are committed to football," he says of the $10.6 million Jacobson Athletic Building, which includes 9,000 square feet devoted to strength and conditioning.

The Cyclones had a substantial player in Troy Davis, who drew national attention to McCarney's program by becoming the first major college running back to gain 2,000 yards in back-to-back seasons. But the unanimous All-American has departed early for the NFL.

Tyrone Watley

Steve Woltmann

Progress is painfully slow for a program that has endured seven consecutive losing seasons and 13 of the last 15. Two years ago, the Cyclones ranked 108th in the nation in rushing defense.

"That'll never happen again, ever," McCarney said. Last season, the Cyclones improved to 106th in rushing defense. So it goes.

Junior quarterback Todd Bandhauer succeeds Todd Doxzon and will give the offense a much different look. Doxzon ran options. Bandhauer is a thrower. He's big and strong, with NFL size: 6–3, 226 pounds. Last season, he played sparingly, throwing only seven passes.

Sophomore Darren Davis, Troy's younger brother, will have to rely on an inexperienced line for running room, which could significantly impact his ability to follow in his brother's footsteps.

Darren was the more publicized of the two coming out of high school. He's the same size but his running style is different. He's more likely to elude tacklers than to attack them.

In addition to ranking second in the Big 12 in kickoff returns as a true freshman, Darren averaged a healthy 6.8 yards per carry on 30 carries.

Junior Joe Parmentier is the returning starter at fullback. His job is to block.

If Bandhauer has the inclination, and the time, to throw the ball, he has a couple of experienced receivers to catch it: seniors Ed Williams and Tyrone Watley.

Williams, a lanky senior, is adept at reading defenses and has sure hands. He also has exceptional leaping ability.

Watley, a senior, was granted an additional season of eligibility following his transfer from Pacific, which dropped its football program. He has big-play potential, catching 27 passes for 419 yards and four touchdowns last season.

Tight ends haven't been used as receivers. Junior Damian Gibson, the new starter, has caught one pass.

The Cyclones ranked fourth in the Big 12 and 13th in the nation in rushing, not only because of Troy Davis, who was the primary reason, but also because of a veteran offensive line.

However, only one starter, senior guard Matt Rahfaldt, returns from a year ago. Two others from last season's two-deep are back, and neither has played much.

The top two defensive units at the end of the season included seven freshmen, four of whom played in the line. And "this league is not built for freshmen," McCarney says.

That was evident enough. Iowa State ranked 108th in the nation in total defense. The Cyclones allowed an average of 36.5 points per game, ranking 104th.

Senior Rudy Ruffolo, a third-year starter, has settled in at tackle after being moved around during his first two seasons. Junior Chin Achebe has the size and quickness to be a solid end.

Senior nose guard Greg Schoon has started in each of his three seasons. Sophomores Antonio Mays and Jack Mitchell are battling it out for the other tackle assignment.

Sophomore linebacker Dave Brcka led the team in tackles with 127. He's a smart player on the inside, as is senior Michael Cooper on the outside. Cooper notched 83 tackles, including six for loss. Senior Derrik Clark is the big-play, inside linebacker with a team-high seven sacks among his 115 tackles.

**53** The percent of Iowa State's total offense that Troy Davis, Heisman Trophy runner-up, accounted for in 1996, when he rushed more than 2,000 yards (2,185) again.

The Cyclones were about as vulnerable to the pass as they were to the run, ranking No. 104 in the nation in pass-efficiency defense.

The starting cornerbacks, junior Dawan Anderson and senior Kevin Hudson, return.

Junior Jamie Kohl is a reliable placekicker with good range. He was successful on nine-of-13 field-goal attempts, including four-of-six from 40 to 49 yards. Freshman Carl Gomez or sophomore Zac Kimble succeeds ace punter Marc Harris.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | **81 Ed Williams (Sr., 3)**; 8 Daman Green (Sr., 1) |
| LT | 51 Oliver Ross (Sr., 0); 70 Ben Beaudet (Fr., 0) |
| LG | **75 Matt Rahfaldt (Sr., 3)**; 68 Eddie Shufford (Sr., 0) |
| C | 73 Marc Cortez (So., 0); 63 Ben Bruns (Fr., 0) |
| RG | 72 Bill Marsau (So., 1); 76 Jim Tuso (Sr., 0) |
| RT | 71 Kurt Levetzow (Jr., 2); 78 Eugene Bernal (Sr., 0) |
| TE | 89 Damian Gibson (Jr., 2); 93 Matt Rysavy (Sr., 2) |
| QB | **17 Todd Bandhauer (Jr., 1)**; 12 Mitch Ryerson (Fr., 0) |
| FB | **42 Joe Parmentier (Jr., 2)**; 43 Hez Jackson (So., 1) |
| TB | 2 Darren Davis (So., 1); 10 Damian Brown (So., 0) |
| FL | **21 Tyrone Watley (Sr., 1)**; 83 Gerrick Bivins (Sr., 0) |
| K | **45 Jamie Kohl (Jr., 2)** |

### DEFENSE (9)

| | |
|---|---|
| LE | **36 James Elmore (So., 1)**; 44 Ryan Harklau (Fr., 0) |
| DT | 55 Antonio Mays (So., 1); 74 Jack Mitchell (So., 1) |
| NG | **90 Greg Schoon (Sr., 2)**; 57 Chris Brunsvold (Jr., 1) |
| DT | **97 Rudy Ruffolo (Sr., 2)**; 92 Terry Thomas (So., 1) |
| RE | **26 Chin Achebe (So., 2)**; 50 Kip King (Jr., 2) |
| LB | **48 Dave Brcka (So., 1)**; 54 Andre Lee (Jr., 1) |
| LB | **11 Derrik Clark (Sr., 1)**; **38 Michael Cooper (Sr., 3)** |
| CB | **14 Dawan Anderson (Jr., 2)**; 24 Doug Densmore (Fr., 0) |
| CB | **13 Kevin Hudson (Sr., 2)**; 19 Kemp Knighten (Jr., 1) |
| SS | 31 Tracy Williams (Sr., 2); 49 Brandon Rutledge (So., 1) |
| FS | 32 Preston Rhamy (Sr., 3); 80 Dustin Avey (Fr., 0) |
| P | 14 Zac Kimble (So., 0) |

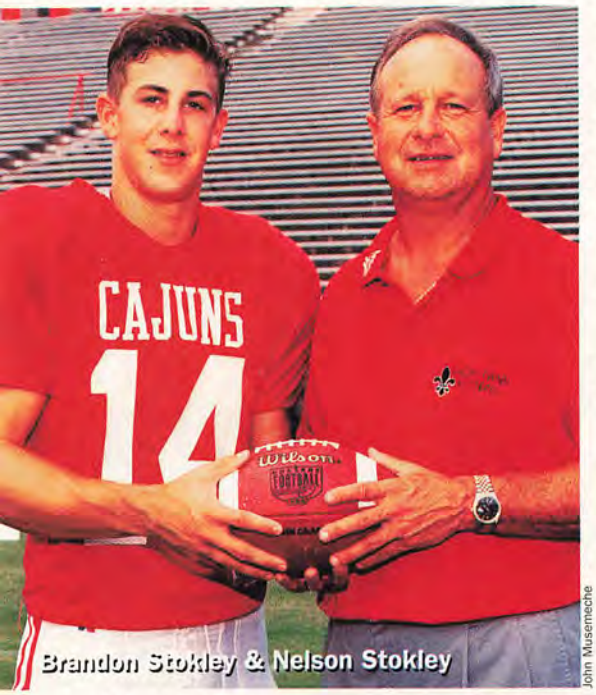
*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# SW Louisiana Rajun' Cajuns

**Head Coach** .....Nelson Stokley
**1996 Record**.....5–6
**Home Field**.....Cajun Field (31,000)

Hey. Nebraska, get this — your offensive line has nothing on Southwestern Louisiana. Who says so? USL offensive coordinator Doug Fertsch.

OK, so Fertsch never mentioned Nebraska by name, but he does say that "there's not a better threesome around" than 348-pound senior tackle Anthony Clement, 350-pound senior guard Keith Ware and 265-pound junior center Ben Archer. And when you add senior guard Marty Cannon (286) and junior tackle Chad Hakemack (298), Fertsch says, "There may not be a fivesome that's as solid as our first group."



Brandon Stokley & Nelson Stokley

John Musemeche

It's a good thing the entire offensive line returns from last year's 5–6 team after the Ragin' Cajuns played the toughest schedule in school history and upset Texas A&M because almost everyone else graduated, especially on offense.

The Cajuns received another blow in spring practice when sophomore tailback Darren Brister, who rushed for 204 yards against Arkansas State, tore up a knee and likely will miss the 1997 season. Coach Nelson Stokley isn't throwing in the towel, though.

"We've got some strengths on this football team," he says. "We've got some inexperience in several places, but this team has a tremendous amount of ability."

Southwestern Louisiana returns six starters on offense and five on defense, but must replace most of the skill people on offense.

Junior quarterback Brian Soignier, who has been the backup for two years, suffered a fractured elbow in the off-season and missed spring practice. Soignier's injury left the door open for sophomore Barton Folse, who had impressive drills.

"There's not going to be another Jake Delhomme, but we've got two really excellent prospects," says Stokely. "Barton Folse had a heck of a spring and showed people that he can lead the football team and showed he can move the football team. I think an awful lot of Brian Soignier, and it's unfortunate that he wasn't able to practice this spring. But he showed us what he can do during the course of last season when he got some opportunities and moved the football and got it in the end zone."

Delhomme finished his four-year career as the No. 22 career passer in NCAA history.

The injury to Brister leaves a group of runners who totaled only 34 yards last year. Juniors Eric Lindsey and Sean Guillory will duel for the starting role. One of the biggest surprises of the spring was the performance of sophomore fullback Brian Wyatt.

"Darren Brister was coming off an outstanding freshman year and he was really having a great spring before he got hurt," Stokely says. "But we had some guys step up there at running back. The thing we're missing without him is maybe the guy that can take it all the way."

Junior wideout Brandon Stokley is shedding the tag of the coach's son and is on pace to become the leading pass-catcher in Division I-A history. Last year, he caught 81 passes for 1,160 yards, both school records, and seven touchdowns. In two seasons, Stokley is averaging 103.7 yards a game.

The Cajuns lost Cody Romero, their all-time leader for career receptions by a tight end. But another potential standout, sophomore Mark Buford, is waiting in the wings.

Clement is projected as a high NFL draft choice next year. Three other linemen — senior Stephen Swander, junior Dan Ator and sophomore Jason Boyer — saw a good deal of action.

USL has its most depth ever at defensive end. Senior Shannon Jeffries moved into a starting role early last season. The only tackle with any extensive experience is junior Randy Young.

Junior Chucky Woodall is the only holdover starter at linebacker. There is speed and quickness with Woodall and the other likely starters, sophomores Dwayne Viator in the middle and Gerald Stewart on the weak side.

Johnson & Johnson: senior cornerback Garrett and junior free safety Charles, will try to prevent any bleeding in the secondary. The Johnsons are not related. Other projected starters are sophomore Charles Woods and junior strong safety Willie Terrell.

**38,783** The record number of fans at Cajun Field last season who witnessed the biggest win in USL history. A 29–22 upset victory over nationally ranked Texas A&M.

USL would like to see improvement from senior placekicker Jeremy Deach (5-of-7 field goals, who missed his only two from beyond 40 yards), and sophomore punter Chris Shaw (40.0 average).

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

| | |
|---|---|
| WR | **Brandon Stokley (Jr., 2)**; Byron Gasaway (Sr., 2) |
| LT | **Anthony Clement (Sr., 3)**; Stephen Swander (Sr., 3) |
| LG | **Keith Ware (Sr., 2)**; Dan Ater (Jr., 2) |
| C | **Ben Archer (Jr., 2)**; David Gaar (Fr., 0) |
| RG | **Marty Cannon (Sr., 2)**; Chad Peterson (Jr., 0) |
| RT | **Chad Hakemack (Jr., 2)**; Jason Boyer (So., 1) |
| TE | Mark Buford (So., 1); Richard Sandusky (Fr., 0) |
| QB | Brian Soignier (Jr., 2); Barton Folse (So., 1) |
| FB | Brian Wyatt (So., 1); James Clement (So., 0) |
| TB | Eric Lindsey (Jr., 1); Sean Guillory (Jr., 1) |
| WR | Franco Smith (Sr., 3); Jason Fletcher (Sr., 2) |
| K | **Jeremy Deach (Sr., 1)** |

### DEFENSE (5)

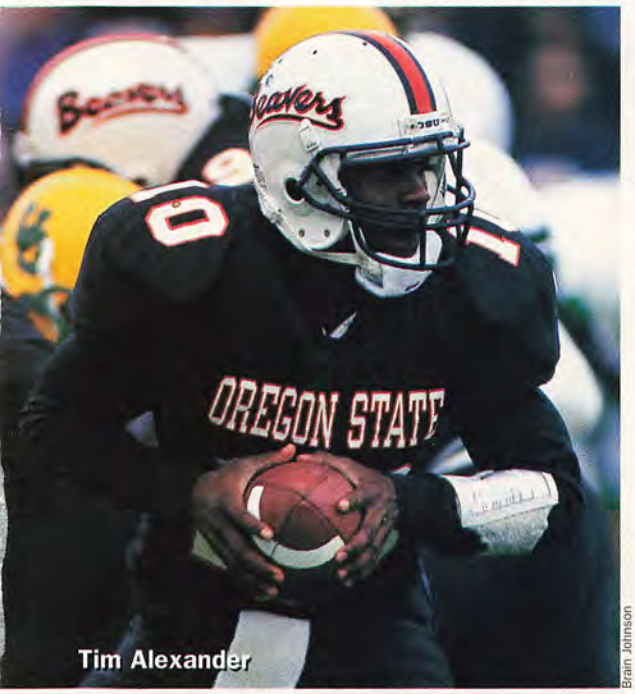
| | |
|---|---|
| LE | **Shannon Jeffries (Sr., 2)**; **Mario Stephens (Sr., 3)** |
| LT | Charles Brown (Fr., 0); Tyrone Abrams (Jr., 0) |
| RT | Eugene Chambers (So., 1); Randy Young (Jr., 2) |
| RE | Myron Turner (So., 1); Chuck Laughlin (So., 0) |
| LB | Dwayne Viator (So., 1); Nathaniel Jefferson (Sr., 0) |
| LB | Gerald Stewart (So., 1); Matt Merry (So., 1) |
| LB | **Chucky Woodall (Jr., 2)**; Victor Hart (Fr., 0) |
| CB | Charles Woods (So., 1); Curnell Schumack (Fr., 0) |
| CB | **Garrett Johnson (Sr., 3)**; Mark Sylvas (So., 1) |
| SS | Willie Terrell (Jr., 2); Steve Pinkney (Jr., 1) |
| FS | **Charles Johnson (Jr., 2)**; Mike Ellis (Sr., 1) |
| P | **Chris Shaw (So., 1)** |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Oregon State Beavers

**Head Coach** .....Mike Riley
**1996 Record (Pac-10)**....2–9 (1–7)
**1997 Prediction**.....10th Pac-10
**Home Field**.....Parker Stadium (35,362)

The last time Oregon State had a winning season, Richard Nixon was in the White House, nobody outside of Washington had ever heard of Watergate, you could buy a new economy car for $2,000 and Bud Riley was the Beavers' defensive coordinator. And Riley's son, Mike, was the quarterback of a Corvallis High team that beat Medford for the Oregon Class 3A championship.



Tim Alexander

Brain Johnson

Twenty-seven years and a lot of coaching miles later, Mike Riley is back, coaching Oregon State and declaring to one and all, "Do I think this is a coach's graveyard? Obviously not. Do I think we can win? Obviously, I do."

The Beavers haven't been winning lately; they are currently enduring the longest string of losing seasons in Division I.

"We're not focusing on 26 losing seasons," says Riley. "We're focusing on our first game."

That comes against North Texas, and it is the first of five games in a row at Corvallis. Perhaps that's the main thing Riley has going for him in his first season at Oregon State. He doesn't take a team on the road until Oct. 18, when the Beavers play UCLA in the Rose Bowl.

Tim Alexander was a prep All-American in Sarasota, Fla., when he was recruited to run Jerry Pettibone's wishbone offense at Oregon State. Pettibone and the wishbone are gone, and Riley's quarterbacks are going to learn to throw the football.

That could be a problem for Alexander, a junior who tossed only 94 passes in seven starts last season, and for his primary backup, sophomore David Moran, who threw just 62 times in six games, three of them as the starter.

The Beavers' passing offense was one of the worst in the country, winding up No. 109, with only 71 completions and an average of 85.1 yards per game.

"Our biggest priority may be to do whatever we can to improve the passing game," says Riley, who took a step in that direction when he recruited Tyler Tomich from Long Beach City College.

"We would not necessarily abandon the option game. Any time you can have the option in your offense, it makes it hard for the defense. But the option may not play as big a role as it has in the past."

Riley likes his running backs, particularly junior DeShawn Williams and fullback Derrick Brame, also a junior.

"The player who made an impression on me from game film last year is DeShawn Williams," Riley says.

But Williams, like all the rest of the backs, has never started a college game. He is, however, the only Oregon State back returning who has shown that he knows the way to the end zone, having scored three touchdowns.

Sophomore flanker Roddy Tompkins and tiny junior split end Willis Jenkins, a 5–6, 146-pounder will be trying to get the rust off their hands. Between them, they have just two touchdown receptions. They will be pushed by junior college transfers Greg Ainsworth, James Battle and Peter Campbell. Junior tight end Joe Kuykendall returns with solid blocking ability.

On the offensive line only left guard Freddie Perez and his backup, Charles Hatcher, have ever started a college game. Junior Larry Ramirez and senior Trey Hyde are the tackles at 300 pounds apiece. Matt Gartung, at 305 pounds, comes from the fertile fields of California's junior colleges and could take over a tackle assignment. Right guard Aaron Koch, a sophomore, lines up at 290. There is little experience at center.

Junior ends Inoke Breckterfield and Jamil Braithwaite will be asked to do different things in the Beaver defense, using what size they have to deal with the run but occasionally backing up in pass coverage. At tackle is junior Bob McKane and the nose guard is sophomore Shawn Ball.

**5-6** That's the height of Oregon State split end Willis Jenkins, a junior who will be expected to use exceptional speed and evasiveness in resuscitating the Beavers' passing game.

Middle linebacker Brian Rogers and weak-side linebacker Bryan Jones, both juniors, are experienced. Jones, a roverback last season, was honorable mention All-Pac-10. Sophomore Micah Moore joins them as the strong-side linebacker.

The secondary is the Beavers' strength. Junior cornerbacks Robert Ruffin and Andrae Holland, senior free safety Larry Bumpus and junior halfback Armon Hatcher have the speed and the ability to cover receivers.

Senior Randy Lund tried only three field goals last season and made two, and he may be knocked out of a job by junior college transfer Jose Cortez.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | 81 Willis Jenkins (Jr., 1); 22 Brandon Reynolds (So., 1) |
| LT | 77 Larry Ramirez (Jr., 2); 62 Kyle Bidgood (Sr., 1) |
| LG | **65 Freddie Perez (Sr., 1)**; 51 Charles Hatcher (Sr., 1) |
| C | 68 Jon Melde (Jr., 0); 67 Darrol Camp (So., 0) |
| RG | 50 Aaron Koch (So. 1); 75 Jared Cornell (Fr., 0) |
| RT | 76 Trey Hyde (Sr., 1); 72 Robert Sykes (Fr., 0) |
| TE | **88 Joe Kuykendall (Jr., 2)**; 91 Jarrod Ogden (So., 1) |
| QB | **10 Tim Alexander (Jr., 2)**; 8 David Moran (So., 1) |
| FB | 36 Derrick Brame (Jr., 1); 45 Mike Jacot (Sr., 1) |
| TB | 33 DeShawn Williams (Jr., 2); 4 Ricky Walker, (Fr., 0) |
| FL | **80 Roddy Tompkins (So., 1)**; 25 Mat Davis (So., 1) |
| K | **14 Randy Lund (Sr., 3)** |

### DEFENSE (8)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | **5 Inoke Breckterfield (Jr., 2)**; 96 Kelron Sykes (Jr., 1) |
| DT | 53 Bob McKane (Jr., 1); 63 David Brim (So., 0) |
| NG | 55 Shawn Ball (So., 1); 49 Aaron Wells (So., 1) |
| DE | 41 Jamil Braithwait (Jr., 0); 48 Alex Sawatzke (Jr., 2) |
| LB | 27 Micah Moore (So., 1); 39 Jonathan Jackson (So., 1) |
| LB | **58 Brian Rogers (Jr., 2); 38 Nathan McAtee (Sr., 3)** |
| LB | **43 Bryan Jones (Jr., 2)**; 17 Brandon Boice (So., 1) |
| CB | **20 Robert Ruffin (Jr., 2)**; 21 Buster Elahee (Sr., 3) |
| CB | **23 Andrae Holland (Jr., 2)**; 19 Byron Lane (Jr., 1) |
| SS | **15 Armon Hatcher (Jr., 2)**; 44 Terrence Carroll (Fr., 0) |
| FS | **2 Larry Bumpus (Sr., 3)**; 12 Aaron Wright (Fr., 0) |
| P | 95 Bret Hopklins (Jr., 1) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Kentucky Wildcats

**Head Coach** ..... **Hal Mumme**
**1996 Record (SEC)** ..... **4–7 (3–5)**
**1997 Prediction** ..... **6th SEC East**
**Home Field** ..... **Commonwealth Stadium (57,800)**

OK, it's a basketball school. But did C.M. Newton really have to pin this on Hal Mumme, his hand-picked choice as football coach: "I told Hal that what we're looking for here is someone who will press, fast break and shoot the 3's on grass."

Seldom does a coach enter a rebuilding situation with a player like Tim Couch in the huddle. Couch was used injudiciously by Mumme's predecessor, Bill Curry, and the results were predictable. Couch started two games and didn't play in four others, completing just 38 percent of his passes and spending much of November contemplating a transfer.

Then came Mumme. And Couch, the nation's top quarterback recruit in 1996, took one look at the rewritten Xs and Os and canceled any travel plans. Spring scrimmages often saw Couch unload as many as 70 passes in an afternoon. Then he threw for four scores in the spring game.

"It's the kind of offense quarterbacks dream about running," he says.

But as good as it looks on paper, Couch's inexperience and a shaky offensive line could put him in harm's way if Mumme is serious about throwing 50 passes a game.

The halfback spot is now a running back-receiver hybrid, with sophomore Anthony White, who ran for 36 yards last season, in the mix along with converted wideouts Kevin Coleman, a junior, and Quentin McCord, a sophomore.

Craig Yeast has the ability to turn short passes into big gains with breakaway speed.

The switch to a more aggressive, gambling defense is typified by the switch of senior outside linebackers Dele Ali and Lamont Smith to defensive end in the 4–3 alignment. The return of junior Marvin Major, who missed last season because of disciplinary action, is a lift at tackle. At linebacker all three starters are new and the necessary speed is in short supply.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

**WR** **3 Craig Yeast (Jr., 2)**; 5 Marvin Love (Jr., 0)
**LT** **64 Jonas Liening (Jr., 2); 77 Jeremy Streck (Jr., 1)**
**LG** **65 John Schlarman (Sr., 3)**; 76 David De La Perralle (So., 1)
**C** **57 Jason Watts (Jr., 2)**; 58 Aaron Daniel (Fr., 0)
**RG** **70 Kris Comstock (Jr., 2)**; 74 Omar Smith (So., 1)
**RT** 75 Lawrence Chamberlain (Fr., 0); 56 David Berringer (Jr., 2)
**TE** 88 Darrin Clark (Sr., 2); 86 Jimmy Haley (So., 1)
**QB** 2 Tim Couch (So., 1); 10 Ryan Keller (Fr., 0)
**FB** 20 Michael Daies (So., 0); 34 Lee Wesley (So., 1)
**HB** 32 Anthony White (So., 0); 19 Kevin Coleman (Jr., 2)
**WR** **83 Chad Spencer (So., 1)**; 84 Norman Mason (Sr., 1)
**K** **23 Brian Johnson (Sr., 2)**; 9 Marc Samuel (Fr., 0)

### DEFENSE (4)

**DE** **45 Lamont Smith (Sr., 3)**; 93 John Rader (Fr., 0)
**DT** 99 Mark Jacobs (Jr., 2); 95 Gordon Crowe (So., 1)
**DT** 98 Marvin Major (Jr., 1); 97 George Massey (So., 1)
**DE** **22 Dele Ali (Sr., 3)**; 91 Anthony Watson (So., 1)
**LB** 48 Jeff Snedegar (So., 1); 82 Matt Layow (Fr., 0)
**LB** 51 Bob Holmberg (Sr., 2); Kevin Bouis (Jr., 0)
**LB** 59 André Smith (Sr., 1); 33 Filmore Wester (Fr., 0)
**CB** **4 Littleton Ward (Sr., 2)**; 13 Eric Kelly (Fr., 0)
**CB** 16 André Hayslip (Fr., 0); Arulogun Shamseldeen (So., 0)
**SS** 26 Tremayne Martin (Sr., 1); 24 Dorion Berry (So., 1)
**FS** **11 Chris Ford (Jr., 2)**; 8 Marlon McCree (Fr., 0)
**P** **18 Jimmy Carter (Jr., 2)**; 30 Stephen Brown (Jr., 0)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*



# Bowling Green Falcons

**Head Coach** ..... **Gary Blackney**
**1996 Record (MAC)** ..... **4–7 (3–5)**
**1997 Prediction** ..... **2nd MAC East**
**Home Field** ..... **Perry Stadium (30,599)**

With seven starters returning on offense and nine on defense, the Falcons hope to rebound from back-to-back 3–5 MAC records. The offense needs retooling after averaging just 2.8 yards per rushing attempt, the lowest in coach Gary Blackney's tenure. The Falcons were held under 20 points in eight games and were outscored 240–176.

Bowling Green lost tailbacks Courtney Davis and Keylan Cates, who combined for 925 yards. The battle to replace them is under way between junior Robbie Hollis and senior Damien Platt. The fullback spot is wide open because Bud Rottinghaus left the team to concentrate on academics.

The coaches say junior quarterback Bob Niemet has to be more selective in his running opportunities to try and avoid injury. Bowling Green averaged 19.8 points with Niemet in the lineup and 11.4 without him.

Niemet was 83-of-191 (43.5 percent) for 1,129 yards and six touchdowns, with nine interceptions. Niemet's favorite targets are all back – senior wide receivers Damron Hamilton and Terry Loville and junior tight end Tony Holcomb.

The offensive line returns three starters — senior center John Kuck, sophomore guard Chad McCarthy and senior tackle Sam Hemke, who moves to guard.

Two starters return on the defensive line — junior nose guard Dan King and senior tackle Gardner Howard, but don't be surprised if they're beaten out by juniors Dana Johnson and Willie Watson. Redshirt freshman D.J. Durkin is the likely starter at defensive end.

The O'Neill brothers return at inside linebacker. Kevin, a senior, led the team in tackles (120) for the second year in a row and was Bowling Green's only first-team All-MAC selection. Joe, a sophomore, started nine games before suffering an ankle injury that required surgery.

Bowling Green set an NCAA all-divisions record last year by losing only one fumble all season — on the 11th play of the opening game.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

**SE** **3 Terry Loville (Sr., 1)**; Jason Spencer (Fr., 0)
**LT** 61 Dontay Hunter (Sr., 1); 79 Rob Fehrman Fr., 0)
**LG** **62 Chad McCarthy (So., 1)**; 63 Eric Curl (Fr., 0)
**C** **58 John Kuck (Sr., 3)**; 67 Ed Merritt (Sr., 3)
**RG** **66 Sam Hemke (Sr., 3)**; 70 Eric Zbinovec (Fr., 0)
**RT** 73 Mark Kautzman (So., 1); 92 Eric Gilbo (Fr., 0)
**TE** **88 Tony Holcombe (Jr, 2)**; 87 Kevin Steinke (So., 1)
**QB** **12 Bob Niemet (Jr., 2)**; 11 Mark Molk (So., 1)
**FB** 47 Adam Lige (Jr., 2); Trent Edmonds Jr., 0)
**TB** 20 Robbie Hollis (Jr., 1); 6 Damien Platt (Sr., 0)
**FL** 24 Damron Hamilton (Sr., 1); 81 Jeremy Dusho (So., 1)
**K** **31 Jason Strasser (So., 1)**

### DEFENSE (8)

**DE** 65 D.J. Durkin (Fr., 0); 98 Terrance Alphonso (So., 0)
**DT** 91 Willie Watson (Jr., 1); **96 Gardner Howard (Sr., 3)**
**NT** 9 Dana Johnson (Jr., 1); **45 Dan King (Jr., 2)**
**LB** **52 Brian Manns (Sr., 3)**; 34 Kinta Mitchell (So., 0)
**LB** **43 Joe O'Neill (So., 1)**; 51 J.P. Mershon (Sr., 1)
**LB** **30 Kevin O'Neill (Sr., 3)**; 57 John Lurtz (Fr., 0)
**LB** 49 Chris Della Vella (Fr., 0); 54 Eric Jones (So., 0)
**CB** **23 Chioke Bradley (Sr., 3)**; 18 Tyrone Cole (So., 0)
**CB** **21 Demetrius Carr (Sr., 3)**; 27 Adam Ventress (Fr., 0)
**SS** 25 Morty Bryce (Jr., 1); Ty Stover (Fr., 0)
**FS** **17 Junior Williams (Sr., 2)**; 4 Jermaine Williams (Sr., 2)
**P** **16 Andy Pollack (Jr., 1)**

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Utah State Aggies

**Head Coach .....John L. Smith**
**1996 Record (Big West).6–5 (4–1)**
**1997 Prediction .....2nd Big West**
**Home Field.....Romney Stadium (30,257)**

Utah State's Big West record under third-year head coach John L. Smith is 8–3, and the Aggies have overcome two slow non-conference starts.

The Aggies must replace two of the best players in school history: Abu Wilson (3,933 yards, career rushing leader), and linebacker David Gill (second-leading tackler).

Senior quarterback Matt Sauk started seven games while sharing time with the departed Patrick Mullins and threw for 2,489 yards. He finished 14th in the country in total offense. Senior Nakia Jenkins ranked fourth nationally in receiving yards (1,397) and fifth in receptions (82).

The Aggies use a one-back, three-wideout alignment. The only returning starter at wide receiver is senior Steve Smith, who caught 32 passes for 555 yards. Senior tight end Guillermo Chavez earned second-team all-conference honors.

Sophomore Demario Brown rushed for 100 yards in three of the last four games. He gained 700 yards on 119 carries.

The offensive line returns four starters. Senior tackle Mauricio Jourdan was All-Big West while senior tackle Mark Rommel, junior guard Ken Watts and senior center Brandon Dyson were second-team picks.

Three starters return from the defensive line, including second-team all-conference senior end Ben Crosland. Junior tackle Walter Fiefia and senior end Adam Jones also have all-conference ability.

The only holdover at linebacker is senior Jeramy Hunt-Loveless. Senior Chad Lyman and redshirt freshman Brent Passey are the likely new starters.

Junior free safety Johndale Carty will anchor the secondary. Last year he was second to Gill with 138 tackles and also broke up seven passes. Junior cornerback Craig Miller also had seven pass breakups.

The Aggies must replace two of the best kickers in school history, placekicker Micah Knorr and punter Nathan Morreale.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

**WR** 85 Adrion Pierson (So., 1); 5 Ricky Brumfield (Sr., 2)
**LT** **74 Maurico Jourdan (Sr., 1)**; 26 Aaron Jones (Fr., 0)
**LG** 57 Mike Lindsay (So., 1); 78 Josh Liberty (Jr., 0)
**C** **59 Brandon Dyson (Sr., 3)**; 63 Matt Jenkins (Fr., 0)
**RG** **65 Ken Watts (Jr., 2)**; 62 Matt Lance (So., 0)
**RT** **79 Mark Rommel (Sr., 1)**; 68 Joe German (Jr., 2)
**TE** **86 Guillermo Chavez (Sr., 1)**; 87 Wade Damuni (Jr., 1)
**QB** **7 Matt Sauk (Sr., 1)**; 18 Brian Benza (Fr., 0)
**RB** **21 Demario Brown (So., 1)**; 6 Melvin Blue (Jr., 2)
**WR** 10 Reggie Hill (Sr., 0); 26 Aaron Jones (Fr., 0)
**WR** **4 Steve Smith (Sr., 1)**; 1 Nakia Jenkins (Sr., 1);
**K** TBA

### DEFENSE (6)

**DE** **55 Adam Jones (Sr., 1)**; 52 Caleb Smith (So., 1)
**NT** **73 Walter Fiefia (Jr., 2)**; 98 John Latu (Sr., 1)
**DE** **95 Ben Crosland (Sr., 3)**; Sean Hansen (So., 1)
**OLB** 53 Chad Lyman (Sr., 3); 90 Matt Schumann (So., 1)
**WLB** **54 Jeramy Hunt-Loveless (Sr., 2)**; 58 Todd Sofonia (Sr., 1)
**MLB** 49 Brent Passey (Fr., 0); 46 Tony D'Amato (Jr., 0)
**ROV** 23 Vashon Garmon (So., 1); 33 Terry Hampton (Fr., 0)
**CB** **8 Craig Miller (Jr., 2)**; 42 Kevin Simmons (Sr., 0)
**CB** 30 Eddie Badibanga (Jr., 1); 20 Guerschom Demosthenes (Sr., 0)
**SS** 45 Donald Dicko (So., 1); 25 Chris Guthrie (Jr., 0)
**FS** **3 Johndale Carty (Jr., 2)**
**P** TBA

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# Memphis Tigers

**Head Coach ..... Rip Scherer**
**1996 Record (C-USA)..... 4–7 (2–3)**
**1997 Prediction ..... 6th C-USA**
**Home Field..... Liberty Bowl (62,380)**

Entering his third season in the Bluff City, Rip Scherer is known for fake punts, on-side kicks and throwing deep when most coaches wouldn't. Sometimes the moves fail. More often they work. Regardless, Memphis fans are starting to like what has been tagged the Rip Roarin' Tigers.

Senior Bernard Oden and redshirt freshman Kenton Evans are both quick-footed quarterbacks, but Evans has the more accurate arm. "Our season hinges on our quarterback," Scherer says. "Kenton is the quarterback of the future, but we have to play the best guy and that might be Bernard." If Evans does start, look for the versatile Oden to get some time as a receiver.

Look for sophomore tailback Teofilo Riley to get 220 carries and challenge the 1,000-yard mark. He could be a C-USA standout by his junior season. Darrius "Boo" Blevins, who missed last season to concentrate on academics, enjoyed a commendable sophomore season in 1995. The former wide receiver's return is welcomed at tailback.

Junior tight end Chris Powers will not be the Tigers' most dangerous offensive weapon this season, but he should toil in the NFL in the fall of 1999.

Scherer claims he has rectified deficiencies on the offensive line with improved returnees and an infusion of new faces.

He has some concerns about his defense, particularly along the line. Junior tackle Marquis Bowling, shifted from end, is the only returning starter.

Senior Chris Reeves, who punished foes part-time at fullback, will now punish opposing fullbacks as a linebacker. Senior Patrick Stiles and sophomore Caspor Stiles (no relation) join Reeves.

Five quality players return in the secondary, keyed by cornerback Mike McKenzie, a budding star who will be one of C-USA's five best sophomores. Last season, he recorded three interceptions and four pass breakups.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

**SE** **86 Richie Floyd (Jr., 1)**; Ken Coutain (Fr., 0)
**LT** **76 Daniel Gomez (Sr., 3)**; 60 Austin O'Dell (Fr., 0)
**LG** **64 Ron Sells (Jr., 2)**; 67 Ben Gleason (Sr., 1)
**C** 61 Ryan Brown (Sr., 0); 73 Anthony Bowen (So., 0)
**RG** **74 Justin Mumm (Sr., 1)**; 62 Tim Seymour (So., 1)
**RT** Travis Whitaker (Jr. 0); 79 Tavares Middlebrooks (So., 1)
**TE** 44 Chris Powers (Jr., 2); 90 Reid Hedgepeth (Fr., 0)
**QB** 3 Bernard Oden (Sr., 2); 10 Kenton Evans (Fr., 0)
**FB** 34 Rashad Bailey (So., 1); 46 Brandon Tucker (So., 0)
**TB** **35 Teofilo Riley (So., 1)**; 33 Darrius Blevins (Jr., 1)
**FL** **17 Chancy Carr (Sr., 3)**; 9 Damien Dodson (So., 1)
**K** 89 Jim Cande (So., 0); 84 Jimmy Keith (Sr., 3)

### DEFENSE (4)

**DE** 69 Manny Santibanez (Jr., 2); 57 Randy Lanctot (Fr., 0)
**DT** 96 T.J. Frier (Jr., 2); 77 Alfred Washington (Fr., 0)
**DT** **91 Marquis Bowling (Jr., 2)**; 70 Calvin Lewis (Fr., 0)
**DE** 50 Tramont Lawless (So., 1); 72 Jarvis Slaton (Fr., 0)
**LB** 11 Chris Reeves (Sr., 2); 52 Michael Boatman (Fr., 0)
**LB** 47 Patrick Stiles (Sr., 3); 48 Kamal Shakir (Fr., 0)
**LB** 30 Caspor Stiles (So., 1); 23 Cedric Miller (Sr., 0)
**CB** **4 Mike McKenzie (So., 1)**; 6 Keith Cobb (Sr., 2)
**CB** **7 Kevin Cobb (Sr., 3)**; 42 Jason Fogle (Jr., 2)
**SS** 27 Anthony Reddick (Sr., 3); 41 Don Haselwood (Sr., 3)
**FS** **2 Jeremy Stewart (Jr., 2)**; 29 Jamie Jones (Fr., 0)
**P** **15 Drew Pairamore (Sr., 3)**

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# SMU Mustangs

**Head Coach .....Mike Cavan**
**1996 Record (WAC) .....5–6 (4–4)**
**1997 Prediction .....7th WAC Mountain**
**Home Field.....Cotton Bowl (68,252)**

Mike Cavan, SMU's new coach has a grand plan that runs counterflow to SMU's recent past. Gone is the run-and-shoot, SMU's offense of choice since 1989.

Gone too, is the team's 4–4 defensive alignment, which failed to produce heat on quarterbacks, opening up a three-man secondary to a surgical dissection.

Quarterback Ramon Flanigan, a three-year starter, may lose the job to freshman Chris Sanders. The youngster has a more disciplined approach, but lacks experience.

At tailback, SMU has quick, elusive slashers Donte Womack and Rodnick Phillips. Cavan is still seeking a big-time blocker who can pound for tough yards at fullback.

SMU welcomes back its three big-play receivers from 1996: Albert Johnson, Jimmy Moore and Rafiq Cooper.

The offensive line is the No. 1 concern. Right guard Glenn Ivey, a senior, is the only returning starter. The Mustangs are short on drive blockers and overall strength.

The defensive line is Problem No. 2. SMU lacks height and heft up front and tackle Jason Evans is the only proven commodity. An improvement on the team's anemic pass rush (13 sacks) or its run-stopping abilities (197.3 yards per game) is not likely.

There is no questioning the front-line talent among the linebackers. All-WAC performer Chris Bordano, who possesses excellent range and instincts, registered 124 tackles, and a team-high three sacks. The Mustangs have quickness on the outside in Chris Gedwed and Tyree Taylor.

Without question, the secondary is the team's strength. The Mustangs have two honors candidates: speedy Jacoby Rhinehart and Kenneth Imo. Rhinehart's 10 pass breakups ranked seventh in the WAC, and he had a hand in five turnovers.

With Anthony Scotti averaging 41.4 per punt, SMU should benefit on most punt exchanges. The kicker will not arrive until fall.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | **84 Jimmy Moore (Jr., 2)**; 82 Ivan Gaines (So., 1) |
| LT | 67 Jeremy Morgan (Jr., 2); 71 Jeff Erxleben (Fr., 0) |
| LG | **63 Trey Bandy (So., 1)**; 56 Kerry Scanlon (Jr., 2) |
| C | 50 Richard Nichols (Fr., 0); 79 Adam Havens (So., 0) |
| RG | **73 Glenn Ivey (Sr., 3)**; **78 Bill Holder (So., 1)** |
| RT | 62 Jerry Chavira (So., 1); 71 Jeff Erxleben (Fr., 0) |
| TE | 87 Damond Blueitt (So., 1); 86 Jeremy Morgan (Jr., 2) |
| QB | **8 Ramon Flanigan (Sr., 3)**; 7 Mark Humble (Sr., 2) |
| TB | **1 Donte Womack (Sr., 3)**; 21 Kelsey Adams (Jr., 2) |
| FB | 34 Bryan Harmon (Sr., 3); 32 Roy Coats (So., 1) |
| FL | **5 Albert Johnson (Jr., 2); 85 Lamonte Guillory (Jr., 2)** |
| K | 96 John Schaffler (So., 0); 90 Adam Wells (So., 0) |

### DEFENSE (8)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | **9 Mercury Hall (Jr., 2)**; 13 Wendell Washington (Jr., 2) |
| DT | **99 Jason Evans (Sr., 3)**; 75 Nkumu Mandungu (So., 1) |
| DT | 76 Dan Merritt (Jr., 2); 64 Max Munn (Jr., 1) |
| DE | **91 Karon Riley (So., 1)**; 47 Warwick Woodard (Sr., 3) |
| LB | **31 Chris Gedwed (Sr., 1)**; 49 Jerry Payne (Fr., 0) |
| LB | 44 Blake Perkins (Jr., 2); 36 Jason Simonton (So., 1) |
| LB | **42 Chris Bordano (Sr., 3)**; 19 Tyree Taylor (Jr., 2) |
| CB | **3 Jacoby Rhinehart (Jr., 2)**; 20 Tracy Hart (So., 1) |
| CB | **24 Dewey Evans (Jr., 2)**; 26 Donald Mitchell (Jr., 2) |
| SS | **2 Kenneth Imo (Jr., 2)**; 25 Tim Gardner (So., 1) |
| FS | 4 Raymon Brown (So., 1); 27 Chad Kollar (Jr., 2) |
| P | **15 Anthony Scotti (Sr., 3)** |

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# Central Michigan Chippewas

**Head Coach .....Dick Flynn**
**1996 Record (MAC) .....5–6 (4–4)**
**1997 Prediction .....2nd MAC West**
**Home Field.....Kelly/Shorts Stadium (20,086)**

When are 477.1 yards and 31.9 points a game not enough? When your team finishes ninth in a 10-team league in total defense (424.9) and seventh in points allowed (25.2).

Central Michigan returns its starting defensive line — tackles C.J. Remmo and Jon McCall and nose guard Calvin Massenberg — and should be tough to run against. Sophomore Central Michigan switches from a 5–2 to a 4–3 alignment.

Junior twins Jason and Jeremy Gold started at inside linebacker last year, but weren't productive. Sophomore Jerome Winston has the inside track at outside linebacker after making 32 tackles as a safety last season. Senior Jason Husband and junior Shawn Williams return at the corners. Williams led the Chippewas with 77 tackles.

The big question mark on offense is at quarterback. Senior Tim Crowley appeared in only three games. Sophomore Jeff Davis and redshirt freshmen Mark Loughead and Pete Shepherd could challenge.

Whoever wins the job can hand off to all-conference tailback Silas Massey and throw to All-MAC flanker Reggie Allen and tight end Adam Simonson. Massey rushed for 1,544 yards and scored 16 touchdowns, and Allen set school single-season records with 66 receptions and 1,229 yards. He caught nine TD passes. Simonson caught 31 passes for 473 yards. Bryan Schorman(53 catches, 811 yards, seven TDs) also returns.

Central Michigan should maintain its tradition of good offensive lines. Returning starters are guards Gene Miller and Rollie Ferris, a second team All-MAC pick, and tackle Gary Glowacki.

The Chippewas return senior placekicker Casey Wilson and senior punter Ben Kroft. Wilson set a single-season record with 45 PATs and made 6-of-12 field goals. Kroft averaged 38.6 yards per punt. Allen and Massey return kicks.

The defense will have to be ready early. Central Michigan's second game is a visit to defending national champion Florida.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

| | |
|---|---|
| TE | **85 Adam Simonson (Jr., 2)**; 90 George Ghattas (Jr., 2) |
| LT | 73 Doug Bontekoe (Jr., 0); 71 Eric Page (So., 0) |
| LG | **67 Gene Miller (Jr., 2)**; 75 Tom Ellis (So., 0) |
| C | 52 Mike Cipa (Jr., 1); 51 Kevin Barry (Fr., 0) |
| RG | **65 Rollie Ferris (Sr., 2)**; 57 Jason Wennerstrom (So., 0) |
| RT | **64 Gary Glowacki (Sr., 3)**; 76 Kevin Bahr (Jr., 0) |
| QB | 9 Tim Crowley (Sr., 0); 11 Matt Loughead (Fr., 0) |
| FB | 27 Jason Meyer (So., 1); 46 Lucas Ethington (Sr., 0) |
| TB | **3 Silas Massey (Jr., 2)**; 40 Eric Flowers (So., 1) |
| FL | **28 Reggie Allen (Jr., 2)**; 5 Rory Nevins (Jr., 2) |
| SE | **86 Bryan Schorman (Jr., 2)**; 15 Damon Pitt (So., 1) |
| K | **24 Casey Wilson (Sr., 1)**; 20 Adam Williams (Sr., 1) |

### DEFENSE (7)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | 56 Gabe McMasters (So., 1); 96 Marty Hage (Jr., 2) |
| DT | **74 C.J. Remmo (Jr., 2)**; 77 Travis Allen (Sr., 2) |
| NG | **33 Calvin Massenberg (Jr., 2)**; 69 Joe Adam (So., 1) |
| DT | **92 Jon McCall (Jr., 2)**; 97 Steve Black (Sr., 1) |
| LB | **41 Jason Gold (Jr., 2)**; 38 Casey Laughlin (Fr., 0) |
| LB | **44 Jeremy Gold (Jr., 2)**; 50 Charlie Bush (Sr., 3) |
| LB | 18 Jerome Winston (So., 1); 36 Burke Maxwell (Jr., 2) |
| CB | **23 Jason Husband (Sr., 3)**; 22 Jamell Jefferson (Jr., 2) |
| CB | **12 Shawn Williams (Jr., 2)**; 43 Byron Phillips (Jr., 2) |
| FS | 8 Anthony Jones (Fr., 0); 48 Herman Smith (So., 1) |
| SS | 22 Jamell Jefferson (Jr., 2); 32 Chad Alexander (Jr., 2) |
| P | **30 Ben Kroft (Sr., 1)** |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Tulane Green Wave

Head Coach .....Tommy Bowden
1996 Record (C-USA).....2–9 (1–4)
1997 Prediction .....7th C-USA
Home Field.....Louisiana Superdome (64,992)

Says Tommy Bowden, the new boss at Tulane and, yes, a member of the Bowden football coaching clan: "I have so much more to work with than my father (Bobby) had when he began at Florida State (in 1976). The major building blocks are here at Tulane.

"The players here want to win but they don't know how."

One gets the feeling Bowden will show them how . . . and soon.

Junior quarterback Shaun King has above-average quickness, but his arm strength and accuracy are average.

Junior tailback Jamaican Dartez, a quick, elusive runner, averaged 58.3 yards per game but could crack the 1,000-yard mark as the featured ball carrier in Bowden's multiple offense.

The best returning receiver at Tulane is junior P.J. Franklin, one of the league's most skilled at running intermediate routes. Sophomore Mike Turner and redshirt freshman Matt Ronquillo are the leading candidates at tight end, where Cory Geason was an all-conference pick. Geason returns as a senior, but is now at tackle, one of five new starters in a modest front wall.

Junior tackle Dennis O'Sullivan leads the defensive line charge. Senior end Shane Marshall led the team with four sacks.

Seniors Brian Williams in the middle and Derrick Singleton at one outside spot highlight one of C-USA's better linebacker contingents. Williams led the team in tackles and Singleton is a returning second-team all-conference pick. Completing the trio is junior Brett Timmons, a ferocious hitter.

Left cornerback Michael Jordan, a junior, is clearly the best of the Wave secondary, and sophomore strong safety Kevin Dukes is a future star.

Brad Hill, a senior, is one of C-USA's top punters. He is joined by steady junior kicker Brad Palazzo. This will be one of the conference's outstanding kicking tandems.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (3)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| WR | 20 | JaJuan Dawson (So., 1); 81 O'Neal Tutein (Jr., 0) |
| LT | | **Cory Geason (Sr., 3)**; 75 Greg Gertha (Jr., 1) |
| LG | 77 | Jerry Godfrey (So., 1); 64 Nelson Stewart (So., 1) |
| C | 55 | Kapua Conley (So., 1); 51 Brad McFarland (Fr., 0) |
| RG | 61 | Sam Smith (Jr., 1); 63 Chris Anderson (Fr., 0) |
| RT | 70 | Mike Gumiela (Jr., 1); 68 Jim Ordeneaux (So., 0) |
| TE | 46 | Mike Turner (So., 1); 92 Matt Ronquillo (Fr., 0) |
| QB | **10** | **Shaun King (Jr., 2)**; 11 Xavier Salazar (Sr., 1) |
| FB | 41 | O'Kie Woods (So., 1); 44 Daryl Jackson (Sr., 3) |
| TB | **19** | **Jamaican Dartez (Jr., 2)**; 22 Horace Raymond (Sr., 3) |
| WR | 8 | P.J. Franklin (Jr., 2); 82 John Donohue (Sr., 3) |
| K | **3** | **Brad Palazzo (Jr., 2)** |

### DEFENSE (7)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | 54 | Manny Cuellar (Jr., 2); 90 Kevin Reavis (Jr., 2) |
| DT | **65** | **Dennis O'Sullivan (Jr., 2)**; 73 Tom Latos (Fr., 0) |
| DT | 99 | Terence Cook (Sr., 3)); 94 Matthew Glapion (Fr., 0) |
| DE | **98** | **Shane Marshall (Sr., 3)**; 96 Brent Hamilton (Jr., 1) |
| LB | **17** | **Derrick Singleton (Sr., 3)**; 17 Wayne Blair (Jr., 2) |
| LB | **50** | **Brian Williams (Sr., 3)**; 56 Keaton Cromartie (Sr., 3) |
| LB | 9 | Brett Timmons (Jr., 2); 41 Derrick Perry (So., 1) |
| CB | **6** | **Michael Jordan (Jr., 2)**; 5 Alphonso Rountree (Jr., 2) |
| CB | **4** | **Tellius Carr (Jr., 2)**; 4 Tim Carter (So., 1) |
| SS | **32** | **Kevin Dukes (So., 1)**; 28 Noel Ellis (So., 1) |
| FS | 13 | Eldwyn Harvey (Sr., 1); Ben Passyn (Sr., 2) |
| P | **48** | **Brad Hill (Sr., 2)** |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*



# Indiana Hoosiers

Head Coach .....Cam Cameron
1996 Record (Big 10) ....3–8 (1–7)
1997 Prediction .....11th Big 10
Home Field.....Memorial Stadium (52,354)

Indiana University has long been considered the Big Ten Conference's equivalent of a football graveyard. Football people call it a basketball school.

"So what," says first-year coach Cam Cameron, a former IU quarterback and basketball player. "Look at the other sports. There's no question in my mind we can get done what we want to get done."

Sophomore quarterback Jay Rodgers started four games late last season and says he welcomes the competition that is likely to come from redshirt freshman Earl Haniford and incoming freshman Antwaan Randle El.

Sophomore tailback Jason Spear ran for 226 yards as a freshman and improved down the stretch. Other possibilities at tailback are freshmen De'Wayne Hogan, who combines 220 pounds with 4.5 speed, and Indiana Player of the Year Levron Williams, who ran for more than 4,000 yards in his prep career. Junior Chris Gall takes over at fullback.

Senior Dorian Wilkerson who led the team with 40 catches, and sophomore speedster Versie Gaddis are the wideouts. Senior Ben Klusmeyer returns at tight end.

Cameron says the offensive line could be a strength, with junior Greg Jenkins and seniors Khalfani Banks, Chris Lee and Chris Liwienski returning.

Senior tackle Benyard Jones and sophomore end Adewale Ogunleye anchor a solid defensive line. Ogunleye possesses surprising speed and quickness for a 260-pounder.

Junior linebacker Jabar Robinson started nine games as a freshman and every game last season. He tallied three interceptions and 63 tackles.

Though three starters return in the secondary, none possesses great speed, which means opponents once again will burn the Hoosiers in straight man-to-man coverage.

Senior Alan Sutkowski, who averaged a healthy 43.3 yards per punt last season, returns. Redshirt freshman Andy Payne, who has a strong leg and can also punt, takes over placekicking chores.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| WR | **80** | **Dorian Wilkerson (Sr., 3)**; O.J. Conner (Fr., 0) |
| LT | **79** | **Khalfani Banks (Sr., 2)**; 71 Jeremy Johnson (So., 1) |
| LG | 76 | Victor Allotey (Sr., 3); 73 Paul Mandina (Fr., 0) |
| C | 54 | Chris Lee (Sr., 3); 61 Jason Stealy (So., 0) |
| RG | 62 | Greg Jenkins (Jr., 2); 66 James Broyles (Fr., 0) |
| RT | **74** | **Chris Liwienski (Sr., 3)**; 78 Craig Robeen (So.,0) |
| TE | **85** | **Ben Klusmeyer (Sr., 3)**; 84 Randy Maxwell ( So., 1) |
| QB | **12** | **Jay Rodgers (So., 1)**; 7 Earl Haniford (Fr., 0) |
| FB | 40 | Chris Gall (Jr., 2); 42 Dan Irish (Sr., 2) |
| TB | 28 | Jason Spear (So., 1); 33 Glynn Johnson (Fr., 0) |
| WR | 2 | Versie Gaddis (So., 1; Jimmy Robinson (Jr., 0) |
| K | 30 | Andy Payne (Fr., 0) |

### DEFENSE (6)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | **93** | **Adewale Ogunleye (So., 1)**; 68 Jason Czap (So., 1) |
| DT | **95** | **Benyard Jones (Sr., 2)**; 70 Albert Haywood (Sr., 2) |
| DT | 75 | Damian Gregory (So., 1); 72 Chad Miller (So., 1) |
| DE | 99 | Aaron Williams (Jr., 2); 92 Curt Goode (Jr., 2) |
| LB | **55** | **Jabar Robinson (Jr., 2)**; 48 Mike Belu (Sr., 2) |
| LB | 53 | Kevin Glaser (Sr., 2); 49 Al Phillips (So., 1) |
| LB | 18 | James Lamar (So., 1); 35 Vince Lidy (So., 1) |
| CB | **31** | **Joey Eloms (Sr., 3)**; 26 Curtis Randle El (So., 1) |
| CB | **40** | **Joe King (Sr., 3)**; 6 Patrick Shaw (So., 1) |
| SS | 13 | Kywin Supernaw (Sr., 1); 38 Michael McGrath (So., 1) |
| FS | **17** | **Aaron Warnecke (Sr., 2)**; 8 Brian Coleman (Jr., 1) |
| P | **25** | **Alan Sutkowski (Sr., 2)** |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# UAB Blazers

91

Head Coach .....Watson Brown
1996 Record.....5–6
Home Field.....Legion Field (83,091)

On Nov. 14, 1996, the most significant announcement in the brief history of UAB football was made: Conference USA formally invited UAB to begin league play in 1999.

Athletic director Gene Bartow is confident that Blazer coach Watson Brown can have the football program ready to compete in C-USA by 1999.

"By the year 2000, I feel we can average between 25,000 and 35,000 fans for home games," Bartow says.

With the move of senior Kevin Drake to wide receiver in spring practice, the quarterback job is up for grabs among a pair of redshirt freshmen, Daniel Dixon and Lee Jolly. Ernest Ross, a sophomore who played wide receiver for UAB in 1996, will challenge.

Senior running back Carl Sanders ranked 28th nationally with a 104.9-yards-per-game average.

A player to watch is sophomore receiver Daryl Johnson. Darrius Malone, also a sophomore, gets a shot at wingback, added in the spring.

Senior Mark Reaves, left tackle in 1996, returns to tight end, where he played two years ago.

The Blazer offensive line returns almost intact keyed by senior center Johnny Rea.

The junior trio of defensive ends Pernell Davis and Sterrick Morgan, and nose guard Curtis Jeter figures to be improved.

Outside linebacker Brian Smith started every game as a true freshman. Joining Smith in the four-linebacker alignment may be sophomore Eric Lampley and junior Wallace Rutledge. The fourth starter is expected to be sophomore Clint Jones.

Senior cornerback Dainon Sidney's five interceptions ranked him 14th nationally. Senior free safety Alan Willis led the team in total tackles with 94, a single-season record, and assists with 42, also a mark. Senior strong safety Izell Reese was runner-up in tackles with 69.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| WR | 14 | Kevin Drake (Sr., 3); 89 Shawn Sims (So., 1) |
| LT | 69 | Tim Medders (Fr., 0); 75 David Hubbard (Fr., 0) |
| LG | **56** | **Brian Creel (Sr., 3)**; 76 Dale Brown (Jr., 2) |
| C | **67** | **Johnny Rea (Sr., 3)**; 62 Brandon Herring (So., 1) |
| RG | **66** | **Melvin Sidney (Jr., 1)**; 77 Jody Coulter (Sr., 2) |
| RT | **72** | **Jason Ray (So., 1)**; 57 Matt Bowden (Fr., 0) |
| TE | **44** | **Mark Reaves (Sr., 3)**; 84 Joel Cain (Jr., 0) |
| QB | 12 | Lee Jolly (Fr., 0); 14 Daniel Dixon (Fr., 0) |
| WB | 81 | Darrius Malone (So., 1); 13 Vincent Edwards (So., 1) |
| RB | **32** | **Carl Sanders (Sr., 1)**; 27 Lucious Foster (So., 1) |
| WR | 82 | Daryl Johnson (So., 1); 4 Tyson Eason (Fr., 0) |
| K | **87** | **Jake Arians (So., 1)**; 17 Lee Miller (Sr., 0) |

### DEFENSE (9)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| DE | **99** | **Pernell Davis (Jr., 1)**; 65 Kevin Thrasher (Fr., 0) |
| NG | **2** | **Curtis Jeter (Jr., 2)**; 58 Michael Roberto (Jr., 2) |
| DE | **98** | **Sterrick Morgan (Jr., 2)**; 93 Reginald King (Jr., 2) |
| LB | **95** | **Wallace Rutledge (Jr., 1)**; 91 Terrance Winborn (So., 1) |
| LB | 32 | Eric Lampley (So., 1); 42 Brian Bozeman (Jr., 2) |
| LB | 97 | Clint Jones (So., 1); 38 Brent Turner (Jr., 2) |
| LB | **47** | **Brian Smith (So., 1)**; 48 Shawn Alexander (Sr., 3) |
| CB | 35 | Rodregis Brooks (So., 1); **9 Omar Parker (Jr., 2)** |
| CB | **22** | **Dainon Sidney (Sr., 1)**; 33 Anthony Blevins (Sr., 3) |
| SS | **43** | **Izell Reese (Sr., 3)**; 31 Al Hurst (So., 1) |
| FS | **23** | **Alan Willis (Sr., 3)**; 31 Lamont French (Sr., 1) |
| P | 92 | Wade Waldrop (Jr., 0); 18 Lee Carter (So., 0) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Hawaii Rainbow Warriors

92

Head Coach .....Fred vonAppen
1996 Record (WAC) .....2–10 (1–7)
1997 Prediction .....6th WAC Pacific
Home Field.....Aloha Stadium (50,000)

After a tropical winter, Hawaii coach Fred vonAppen's view of his first season naturally became brighter.

Well, maybe not so much.

The "long, grim" year did not wear off easily, as vonAppen's staff discovered the way the program's talent level, facilities and travel demands compared with the rest of the WAC's. The 2–10 season "was not a revelation to us," says vonAppen, knowing that drastically changing the offensive scheme and trying to make the players fit the system was an overwhelming process.

The Rainbows averaged only 256 total yards a game, ranking last in the WAC and sixth from the bottom in the country. VonAppen now has quarterbacks best suited for the West Coast offense, and as many as 15 junior college transfers.

Stanford transfer Tim Carey and junior college arrival Dan Robinson were recruited to run the option offense.

Stanford transfer Quincy Jacobs will bring his all-around game to running back, while freshman Charles Tharp could play right away. Senior Lonn Kalama, a part-time starter a year ago, now has the fullback job all to himself.

Seniors Johnny Macon and Jason Mane shared one wideout position in '96 and combined for 33 catches. Junior college All-American Wesley Morris and fellow juco John Kirby "need to step to the plate" to upgrade this position, vonAppen says.

Lack of size is the primary trouble on the defensive line. The front four averaged less than 260 pounds, and the Rainbows allowed 233 rushing yards a game.

Senior middle linebacker Stephen Gonzales earned vonAppen's praise for "a good year" after ranking third on the team in tackles, with five stops for loss.

Senior free safety Eddie Klaneski was the staff's best discovery last season. After moving from slotback, he led the team in tackles and intercepted five passes, returning one for 67 yards and a touchdown.

Eric Hannum punted 77 times for a 39.9 average. He will also be the kicker.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| WR | **2** | **Johnny Macon (Sr., 3)**; 17 John Kirby (Jr., 0) |
| LT | **71** | **Kaulana Noa (So., 1)**; 78 Conrad Paulo (Sr., 3) |
| LG | 70 | Jose Martinez (Jr., 0); 68 Andy Phillips (So., 1) |
| C | **65** | **Shane Oliveira (Sr., 3)**; 64 J.R. Directo (Jr., 0) |
| RG | **76** | **Bobby Singh (Jr., 2)**; 75 Gary Krug (Jr., 0) |
| RT | 63 | Adrian Klemm (So., 1); Sione Tafuna (So., 1) |
| TE | 82 | Gary Ellison (Sr., 3); 4 Jimmy McClain (Jr., 0) |
| QB | 3 | Tim Carey (Sr., 0); 18 Dan Robinson (Jr., 0) |
| RB | 1 | Quincy Jacobs (Sr., 0); 31 Russell Grant (Jr., 1); |
| FB | 22 | Lonn Kalama (Sr., 1); 35 Morrie Roe (Sr., 2) |
| WR | 12 | Wesley Morris (Jr., 0) 6 Jason Mane (Sr., 3); |
| K | **14** | **Eric Hannum (So., 1)** |

### DEFENSE (10)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| LE | **83** | **Ellie Kapihe (Sr., 3)**; 93 Sam Collins (Sr., 1); |
| DT | **79** | **Ben Bright (Jr., 2)**; 97 Bob Pigott (Sr., 1) |
| NG | **92** | **Tony Tuioti (So., 1)**; 95 Soon Togiola (So., 0) |
| RE | **53** | **Brian Chapman (Sr., 0)**; K. Cobbs-Adams (Jr., 2) |
| OLB | **54** | **Rufus Ayeni (Jr., 1)**; 41 Punahou Aina (Sr., 2) |
| MLB | **52** | **Stephen Gonzales (Sr., 1)**; 94 Kekoa Kilcoyne (Sr., 1) |
| OLB | **34** | **Doug Rosevold (Sr., 1)**; 8 Rinda Brooks (Jr., 0) |
| LB | **27** | **Al Hunter (Sr., 3)**; 23 John Stepien (So., 0) |
| RB | **14** | **Robbie Robinson (Sr., 2)**; 43 Damien Arafiles (Jr., 0) |
| SS | 7 | Chris Shinnick (Sr., 1); 3 Ron Wood (Jr., 0) |
| FS | **21** | **Eddie Klaneski (Sr., 3)**; 1 Blase Austin (Sr., 0) |
| P | 11 | Chad Shrout (So., 1) |

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# Duke Blue Devils

93

**Head Coach** .....**Fred Goldsmith**
**1996 Record (ACC)**.....**0–11 (0–8)**
**1997 Prediction** .....**9th ACC**
**Home Field**.....**Wallace Wade Stadium (33,941)**

Duke coach Fred Goldsmith puts it succinctly. "I expect us to be better," he says. Injuries and inexperience proved a losing mixture and the Blue Devils agonized through an uncommon 0–11 season. An example of Goldsmith's predicament came in the last game, against North Carolina, when he started eight freshmen.

The outlook improved experience-wise with 18 starters returning.

Senior David Green, a feisty leader with a strong arm, is the incumbent quarterback, but he played less than half the season. He completed 53 percent of his 165 passes for a mere four touchdowns. Green faces formidable challenges from three similar-style quarterbacks: sophomore Kevin Thompson and redshirt freshmen Bobby Campbell and Spencer Romine.

The leading returning rusher is sophomore tailback Letavious Wilks, who ran for 554 yards, averaging 4.8 and scoring two touchdowns. Senior fullback Laymarr Marshall averaged 3.4 yards.

The A-back post may be filled by one of many, all juniors: Reco Owens, Dawud Rasheed and Jeff Hodrick. When the play calls for a fullback, look for Rasheed or Marshall to line up.

Senior split end Corey Thomas (38 catches, four touchdowns) could be due for a banner year.

The three-man defensive front should be better and stronger by the mere fact that nose guard Eric Scanlan and end Chris Ruzic, both juniors, are a year older and a year wiser. Sophomore tackle Chris Combs (53 stops) is a key defensive player. He is coming off a freshman year during which he had eight sacks, six quarterback pressures and 11 tackles behind the line.

The Blue Devils lost their No. 1 hit man, Billy Granville, but retained No. 2, defensive back Tawambi Settles (106 tackles), and No. 3, senior linebacker Chike Egbuniwe, who had 103.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

**SE** **8 Corey Thomas (Sr., 3)**; 2 Scottie Montgomery (So., 1)
**LT** 55 Patrick Mannelly (Sr., 3); 76 Wes White (Fr., 0)
**LG** **74 Lennie Friedman (Jr., 2)**; 57 Aaron Duke (Jr., 1)
**C** **62 John Gordon (Sr., 3)**; 71 Troy Andrew (Fr., 0)
**RG** **64 Chad Melita (Sr., 3)**; 53 Wally Neimcow (Fr., 0)
**RT** **56 Austin Smithwick (So., 1)**; 75 Rob Hines (So., 0)
**TE** 9 Jeff Hodrick (Sr., 3); 89 Terrence Dupree (So., 0)
**QB** **11 David Green (Sr., 1)**; 7 Kevin Thompson (So., 1)
**FB** 34 Dawud Rasheed (Jr., 2); **32 Laymarr Marshall (Sr., 3)**
**RB** 21 Letavious Wilks (So., 1); 25 Matt DeOrio (Sr., 3)
**FL** **3 Reco Owens (Jr., 2)**; 81 Joe Opalenick (Sr., 3)
**K** **12 Sims Lenhardt (So., 1)**; 43 Matt Mapes (Jr., 0)

### DEFENSE (10)

**DE** **96 Chris Ruzic (Jr., 2)**; 98 Gannon Shepherd (So., 1)
**NG** **91 Eric Scanlan (Jr., 2)**; 94 Mike Steinbaugh (So., 1)
**DT** **93 Chris Combs (So., 1)**; 70 Troy Austin (Fr., 0)
**LB** **99 Brian McCormack (Jr., 2)**; 58 Kendral Knight (Fr., 0)
**LB** **54 Chike Egbuniwe (Sr., 3)**; 44 Ryan Stallmeyer (So., 1)
**LB** 35 Lyle Burdine (Jr., 1); 45 Jim Kovach (Jr., 2)
**LB** **27 Kevin Lewis (So., 1)**; 10 Chris Norkus (Jr., 2)
**CB** **6 Tawambi Settles (Sr., 3); 28 Alonzo Moyer (Jr., 2)**
**CB** **37 Lamar Grant (So., 1)**; 20 Kenan Holley (Jr., 2)
**SS** **13 Darius Clark (So., 1)**; 40 Brian Krenzel (Jr., 1)
**FS** 23 Eric Jones (So., 1); 30 Luke Roush (Fr., 0)
**P** 17 Brian Morton (Fr., 0); 12 Sims Lenhardt (So., 1)

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# Marshall Thundering Herd

94

**Head Coach** ..... **Bob Pruett**
**1996 Record** .....**15–0**
**1997 Prediction** .....**3rd MAC East**
**Home Field**.....**Marshall University Stadium (30,000)**

Marshall, coming off a 15–0 season with a Southern Conference title and Division I-AA national championship, moves into Division I-A and the Mid-American Conference.

Marshall fielded a team with 11 All-Americans and 19 all-conference selections. The Thundering Herd won its four playoff games by an average of 34 points.

Although Marshall lost quarterback Eric Kresser, sophomore Chad Pennington is more than able. Thrust into the lineup as a 1995 freshman, he completed 219-of-354 passes (61.9 percent) for 2,445 yards and 15 touchdowns, and was named Southern Conference Freshman of the Year.

Pennington is expected to be pushed for the quarterback job by senior Mark Zban, who transferred from Ohio State.

Tailback Erik Thomas graduated after rushing for 1,296 yards, but sophomore Doug Chapman was the first Marshall freshman to rush for 1,000 yards (1,238) since 1979. Sophomores Llow Turner and Jason Balwanz turned some heads, averaging 7.6 and 5.8-yards-per-carry respectively.

Sophomore receiver Randy Moss caught 78 passes for 1,709 yards and 28 touchdowns. No other freshman in the history of college football ever caught more scoring passes. Moss also led the nation in kickoff returns, averaging 34.5 yards.

Marshall uses a three-wideout alignment and returns junior Jerrald Long, senior Mark Wicks and junior LaVorn Colclough, all of whom had productive seasons. Junior John White takes over at tight end.

Senior end B.J. Cohen was an All-American who recorded 113 tackles and tied for the team lead with nine sacks.

Senior middle linebacker Larry McCloud led the team in tackles in each of the last two seasons. He had 150 last year and led the Southern Conference with four fumble recoveries.

Marshall's introduction into Division I-A may not be friendly — the first two opponents are West Virginia and Army, both on the road.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (3)

**WR** **88 Randy Moss (So., 1)**; 18 LaVorn Colclough (Jr., 2)
**LT** 72 Jimmy Cabellos (So., 0); 75 Sid Cisco (So., 0)
**LG** 65 Bert Scarbrough (So., 1); 53 Josh Seamster (Jr., 2)
**C** **66 John Wade (Sr., 3)**; 62 Jason Starkey (So., 1)
**RG** **52 Brian Reed (Sr., 3)**; 53 Josh Seamster (Jr., 2)
**RT** 69 Irv Dotson (So., 1); 68 Dylan Evans (So., 0)
**TE** 87 John White (Jr., 2); 81 Jevon Jenkins (Jr., 2)
**QB** 10 Chad Pennington (So., 1); 7 Mark Zban (Sr., 0)
**TB** 22 Doug Chapman (So., 1); 32 Llow Turner (So., 1)
**WR** 89 Jerrald Long (Jr., 1); 14 Damone Williams (Jr., 2)
**WR** 2 Mark Wicks (Sr., 3); 18 LaVorn Colclough (Jr., 2)
**K** 33 Chris O'Neal (Jr., 0); 41 Chris Hanson (Jr., 2)

### DEFENSE (5)

**DE** **5 B.J. Cohen (Sr., 3)**; 84 Jarod Keely (Jr., 1)
**DT** 64 Dewayne Lewis (So., 1); 64 Billy Gregory (Jr., 1)
**NG** **6 Ricky Hall (Jr., 2)**; 97 Joe Zeglowitsch (Jr., 1)
**DE** 58 Paul Totten (Jr., 2); 93 Giradie Mercer (So., 1)
**LB** 48 Haman Allen (Jr., 2); 43 Derrick Walker (Jr., 1)
**LB** **28 Larry McCloud (Sr., 3)**; 55 Andre O'Neal (So., 1)
**LB** 4 John Grace (So., 1); 54 Richard D'Andrea (So., 1)
**CB** 8 B.J. Summers (Sr., 2); 19 Tim Dempsey (Jr., 2)
**CB** **11 Larry Moore (Sr., 2)**; 19 Tim Dempsey (Jr., 2)
**SS** **9 Thomas Maxwell (Sr., 3)**; 38 Jeremy Eastwood (Sr., 1)
**FS** 42 Rogers Beckett (So., 1); 27 Ryan Moore (So., 1)
**P** 41 Chris Hanson (Jr., 2)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Ohio Bobcats

Head Coach .....Jim Grobe
1996 Record (MAC).....6–6 (5–3)
1997 Prediction .....4th MAC East
Home Field.....Peden Stadium (20,000)

Is Ohio University ready for that long-awaited winning season? The Bobcats' tasted .500 last year for the first time since 1982

Ohio returns five starters on offense, including a one-two rushing punch of quarterback Kareem Wilson and fullback Steve Hookfin, both juniors. The Bobcats led the conference in rushing with a school-record 3,289 yards.

Eight starters return from the MAC's league-leading defense, which had three shutouts for the first time since 1963.

Ohio finished last in the MAC in passing yardage and plans to throw the ball more often and more effectively.

Quarterback is in good hands with the return of the 5–7 Wilson, who earned MAC Offensive Player of the Year honors by rushing for 1,072 yards, a school record for a quarterback.

"Kareem has the ability to lead us to a championship," MAC Coach of the Year Jim Grobe says.

Fullback in the triple-option, double-slot (two halfbacks) offense is solid with Hookfin, a second-team All-MAC selection who led the Bobcats in rushing with 1,125 yards and scored nine times.

Junior Ewane Nanji returns at one halfback slot, primarily as a blocker. A candidate for the other halfback post is sophomore John Cosgrove, who may be the fastest player on the team.

Junior flanker Damion Maxwell led the team with 17 receptions.

The main task on offense is replacing four starters on the line.

Top returnees on the defensive front include juniors Geno Walsh and Jeremy Beutler, and sophomores Steve Collins, Steve Gaydosz and John Kraus.

The linebackers and secondary all return. The secondary could be the team's strongest area with the return of all four starters and two top reserves.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

FL **9 Damion Maxwell (Jr., 2)**; 3 Lonche Thrash (Sr., 2)
LT 61 Brian Dennehy (Sr., 1); 60 Chris Evans (Sr., 2)
LG 65 Brian Fortman (Jr., 1); 69 Wolfgang Kratzenberg (Jr., 2)
C 50 Mike Varone (So., 0); 53 Chip Pugh (So., 0)
RG **79 Mike Solominsky (Jr., 2)**; 78 Cooper Jones (So., 0)
RT 56 Steve Gaydosz (So., 0); 74 Zach Holt (Fr., 0)
TE 86 Drew Dwyer (So., 1); 87 Brad Harper (So., 0)
QB **14 Kareem Wilson (Jr., 2)**; 16 Mike Orlando (Jr., 1)
FB **39 Steve Hookfin (Jr., 2)**; 46 Joe Fondale (So., 1)
HB **29 Ewane Nanji (Jr., 2)**; 22 Colin Rogero (Fr., 0)
HB 26 John Cosgrove (So., 1); 18 Karim Hill (Jr., 2)
K **25 Brian Huston (Jr., 2)**

### DEFENSE (8)

DE 91 John Kraus (So., 1); 95 Dan Machado (Fr., 0)
NT 57 Geno Walsh (Jr., 2); 63 J.D. Hupp (Jr., 2)
DE 49 Jeremy Beutler (Jr., 2); 99 Steve Collins (So., 1)
LB **51 Leigh Barbour (So., 1)**; 55 Ryan Baxter (Jr., 0)
LB **58 Mark Calgaro (So., 1)**; 89 Tom Smith Sr., 2)
LB **40 Tom Carder Jr., 2)**; 42 Troy Sands (So., 1)
LB **15 Andre Jackson (Sr., 3)**; 88 Rahim Slaise (Jr., 2)
CB **5 Tevell Jones (Sr., 2)**; 14 Adam Hill (Fr., 0)
CB **28 Mark Stubbs (Jr., 2)**; 33 Sean Williams (Sr., 2)
SS **2 Brandon Cade (Sr., 2)**; 13 Nick Toth (Jr., 2)
FS **31 Dennis Fitzgerald (Jr., 2)**; 27 David Walker (So., 1)
P **24 Jon Beier (Sr., 2)**

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*



# Rutgers Scarlet Knights

Head Coach .....Terry Shea
1996 Record (Big East) 2–9 (1–6)
1997 Prediction .....7th Big East
Home Field.....Rutgers Stadium (41,500)

His much-ballyhooed West Coast offense went south on Terry Shea last year. You'll recall that Shea took over at Rutgers spouting messages like, "I don't think they (Big East rivals) have seen what we'll show. We have a chance to really dazzle them."

The Big East still hasn't seen the West Coast offense.

The Scarlet Knights finished last in scoring, total offense, rushing offense and passing offense. They were 90th nationally (out of 111 teams) in passing and 108th in the other three categories.

Of course, Shea was somewhat restricted. Outgoing coach Doug Graber left behind only three offensive regulars, and the team was beset by injuries. The result was a 2–9 season, 1–6 and a seventh-place finish in the Big East.

Shea hasn't lost any of his enthusiasm, though. Rutgers returns five starters on offense and six on defense plus key people from two years ago.

"We were really encouraged once we regained the health of our offensive line," Shea says. "We've strengthened ourselves from the recruiting standpoint in that area, too."

Quarterback Mike Jones, a redshirt freshman, runs the show. Only one running back averaged more than four yards a carry, and he graduated. Senior Reggie Funderburk, who caught a combined 109 passes in 1994-95 but missed last year with a knee injury, will be Jones' go-to receiver. Funderburk has deceptive speed and sure hands.

A combination of injuries and graduation have contributed to depleted numbers on the offensive line. Center Jack McKiernan is a three-year starter and All-East candidate.

Senior rush end Chris Cebula, who forced five fumbles, is the anchor of a line that lacks size. Most of the defensive depth is at linebacker. Brian Sheridan, a senior who recorded a team-high 112 tackles in 1995, is the standout.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

WR **81 Andy Holland (So., 1)**; 6 Reggie Funderburk (Sr., 3)
LT **77 Kerry Ware (Sr., 1)**; 76 Pete Donnelly (Sr., 1)
LG 68 Clint Hunt (Jr., 0); 90 Antonio Horn (Jr., 0)
C **54 Jack McKiernan (Sr., 3)**; 59 Matt Fleming (Sr., 1)
RG 66 Shaun O'Hara (Jr., 1); 71 Matt Fleming (Sr., 1)
RT **74 Ben French (Jr., 1)**; 78 T.J. Spizzo (Sr., 1)
TE 85 Marcus Luna (Sr., 1); 92 Russell Swanson (Sr., 1)
QB 12 Mike Jones (Fr., 0); Mike McMahon ( Fr., 0)
FB 5 Gary Fauntleroy (Jr., 1); 36 Chris Washington (Jr., 0)
TB 30 Jacki Crooks (So., 1); 33 Joe Diggs (Sr., 2)
WR **82 Steve Harper (Sr., 3)**; 86 Walter King ( So., 1)
K **27 Nick Mike-Mayer (Sr., 2)**

### DEFENSE (6)

DE **93 Chris Cebula (Sr., 2)**; 67 Joe Cirone (So., 0)
DT 64 Brian Yeager (So., 1); 63 Mike DeLucia (So., 1)
DT **87 Charles Woolridge (Sr., 3)**; 98 Matt Washington (Sr., 0)
DE 96 Ansel George-Shields (So., 1); 91 Mike Karwacki (Jr., 0)
LB **2 Norris Crawford (Sr., 3)**; 46 Paul Jovanavic (Jr., 1)
LB 43 Brian Sheridan (Sr., 3); 49 Dave Strohmeyer (Jr., 1)
LB **43 Aaron Brady (Jr., 2)**; 48 Mike Pridgeon (So., 1)
LB **19 Gil Ross (Jr., 2)**; 47 Roger Wingate (Jr., 1)
CB 9 Peter Clarke (Jr., 2); 4 Bobby Orro (Sr., 2)
CB 10 Kevin Williams (Sr., 3); 31 Louis Turso (So., 1)
FS **21 Thomas Kelly (Sr., 3)**; 15 Shin Black (So., 1)
P **24 Jared Slovan (Sr., 3)**

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Idaho Vandals

97

**Head Coach** .....**Chris Tormey**
**1996 Record (Big West)**.**6–5 (3–2)**
**1997 Prediction** .....**3rd Big West**
**Home Field**.....**Kibbie Dome (16,000)**

Idaho was one of the nation's most explosive teams in 1996, and who replaces quarterback Ryan Fien will determine how powerful the Vandals offensive is this fall.

Senior Brian Brennan has eight career starts and the third-highest pass efficiency rating in school history. His 1,766 passing yards in 1994 are the most by an Idaho freshman.

Senior Antonio Wilson was the receiving-leader with 1,203 yards and caught 65 passes. Junior Robert Scott had 50 catches for 737 yards and a team-best nine touchdowns.

Senior Jeff Pankratz will battle with sophomore Travis Stombaugh and senior Ryan LaPointe at tight end.

Senior running back Joel Thomas led the Big West with 1,120 yards. Thomas, a 5–6, 207-pound bowling ball, is backed by junior Jerome Thomas (they are not related), who was off to a solid start before an ankle injury in the seventh game sidelined him.

The only holdovers on the offensive line are senior tackle Crosby Tajan and senior center Bill Verdonk, who missed spring practice following knee surgery.

A vast rebuilding job is in order on the defensive line where senior tackle Tim Wilson is the only holdover. Senior John Harper and junior Nick Alexakos are next in line at end. Sophomore Matt Kramer missed the spring after a wrist injury, but is expected to make a strong return. Senior Garner Moody is expected to start opposite Wilson at tackle.

At linebacker, Jason Shelt, Idaho's second-leading all-time tackler, will be hard to replace. Junior Ryan Skinner appears to be Shelt's successor. Junior Whitney Mayer returns at one outside spot with sophomore Matt Jasik on the other. Depth is solid.

Experience abounds in the secondary with all four starters returning and good depth. Sophomore free safety Bryson Gardner is the top returning tackler; his 67 stops were second to Shelt's 128.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

**WR** **3 Antonio Wilson (Sr., 1);** 27 Matt McElravy (Fr., 0)
**LT** **65 Crosby Tajan (Sr., 2);** 70 Brian Smith (So., 1)
**LG** 66 Brett Morton (Fr., 0); 75 Ryan Schienle (So., 0)
**C** **76 Bill Verdonk (Sr., 2)**; 77 Justin Meek (Sr., 1)
**RG** 78 Jason Stark (Jr., 1); 62 Robert Horbaczewski (Fr., 0)
**RT** 72 Jeff Senkevich (So., 1); 99 Rick DeMulling (Fr., 0)
**TE** 84 Jeff Pankratz (Sr., 2); 85 Travis Stombaugh (So., 1)
**QB** 11 Brian Brennan (Sr., 2); 12 Ed Dean (Fr., 0)
**RB** **1 Joel Thomas (Sr., 3);** 32 Jerome Thomas (Jr., 2)
**WR** **4 Robert Scott (Jr., 2);** 21 Ryan Prestimonico (So., 0)
**WR** 6 Deon Price (Sr., 1); 17 Jesse Taylor (So., 0)
**K** **18 Troy Scott (Sr., 2)**

### DEFENSE (6)

**LE** 46 John Harper (Sr., 3); 88 Jake Wimer (Fr., 0)
**LT** **95 Tim Wilson (Sr., 3);** 86 Mike Roberg (Fr., 0)
**RT** 87 Garner Moody (Sr., 2); 92 Eric Balzer (So., 0)
**RE** 37 Nick Alexakos (Jr., 1); 48 Cade Smith (Fr., 0)
**OLB** 34 Whitney Mayer (Jr., 2); **22 Yaphet Warren (Jr., 2)**
**MLB** 44 Ryan Skinner (Jr., 2); 45 Casey Hills (Fr., 0)
**OLB** **35 Matt Jasik (So., 1);** 40 James Durrough (So., 0)
**CB** **23 Arnold Gunn (Sr., 3);** 28 Tom Rayner (So., 1)
**CB** **14 Ryan McGinnis (Sr., 1);** 15 Dennis Gibbs (Fr., 0)
**SS** 42 Kevin Hill (Jr., 2); 29 Jaquwan Brackenridge (Fr., 0)
**FS** **10 Bryson Gardner (So., 1);** 49 Tony Uranga (Sr., 2)
**P** **19 Mike O'Neal (Sr., 1)**

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# NE Louisiana Indians

98

**Head Coach** ..... **Ed Zaunbrecher**
**1996 Record**..... **5–6**
**Home Field**..... **Malone Stadium (30,427)**

You won't see Northeast Louisiana in the Southeastern Conference championship game because NLU isn't a member. But that doesn't mean the Indians can't scare the daylights out of SEC teams.

Last season NLU led No. 22 Auburn 14–10 at the half and 24–21 in the fourth quarter before the Tigers scored in the final two minutes to escape with a 28–24 win.

The Indians upset Kentucky in 1994 and Mississippi State in 1995, and play Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi State and Kentucky, all on the road this fall.

The only major loss on offense is quarterback Raymond Philyaw, the school's all-time leader in touchdown passes (52) and second in yardage (7,061). Junior Bo Meeks is the likely successor. Meeks completed just 4-of-15 passes for 41 yards.

Eight players who carried the ball last year return. Senior Marquis Williams led the way with 613 yards and four touchdowns, but was listed second in the spring behind senior Keith Gardner, who had 59 carries for 185 yards but did more damage as a receiver (35 receptions, 433 yards, four touchdowns). At fullback, sophomore Antwan Holmes got eight starts and turned into a good blocker.

Marty Booker, a junior, and Derrick Bridges, a sophomore, are back after combining for 73 receptions, 1,302 yards and nine touchdowns. Tight end also is in good hands with sophomore Chris Spencer, who caught 15 passes for 209 yards.

Senior defensive end Steve Foley is a two-time All-Independent selection.

The cream of NLU's recruiting crop is a trio of linebackers. Derrick Johnson was the most decorated linebacker in the state of Arkansas in the past decade. Donald Malveaux was Louisiana's Class 5A Most Valuable Defensive Player and Otis Robinson was the northeastern Louisiana Player of the Year. All could start immediately.

Sophomore free safety Travis Singleton, the All-Independent Freshman of the Year, is the top returnee after making 63 tackles, with five interceptions.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

**SE** **14 Marty Booker (Jr., 2)**; 8 Marcus Hudson (So., 1)
**LT** **72 Chad Reeder (Sr., 3)**; 69 Michael Hervey (Sr., 1)
**LG** 76 Fred Bennett (So., 1); **52 Shawn Jenkins (Sr., 3)**
**C** **53 Tommy Franklin (Sr., 3)**; 71Don Tillman (So., 0)
**RG** **64 Shane Pittard (So., 1)**; 74 Brian Garrett (So., 0)
**RT** **77 James Landers (Jr., 2)**; 75 Shane Price (Sr., 3)
**TE** **80 Chris Spencer (So., 1)**; 82 Mel Conway (Jr., 2)
**QB** 12 Bo Meeks (Jr., 2); 6 Daniel Jeremiah (Fr., 0)
**FB** **22 Antwan Holmes (So., 1)**; 39 Alan Ricard (Jr., 1)
**RB** 47 Keith Gardner (Sr., 3); **18 Marquis Williams (Sr., 1)**
**FL** 23 Derrick Bridges (So., 1); 10 J.J. Patterson (Sr., 1)
**K** **13 Cory Babineaux (Jr., 2)**; 27 Brian Fuchs (So., 0)

### DEFENSE (6)

**LE** **86 Steve Foley (Sr., 2)**; 92 Mike Turner (So., 1)
**LT** **90 Felix Richardson (Sr., 1)**; 70 Willie McKeever (Jr., 1)
**RT** 95 Chad Ducre (Jr., 1); **91 K.J. Graham (Sr., 1)**
**RE** 50 Jonathan Foster (So., 1); 67 John Van (So., 0)
**LB** 46 Marlon Turner (Jr., 2); 87 Camaron Wynn (Fr., 0)
**MLB** 35 Desmond Beckwith (So., 1); 58 Otis Drew (Fr., 0)
**LB** 51 Sirl Wright (Jr., 2); 16 D.J. Davis (Jr., 2)
**CB** 33 Pat Dennis (Fr., 0); 17 Demond Sylvas (Sr., 2)
**SS** **3 Dee Jefferson (Jr., 2); 25 Brian Taylor (Jr., 2)**
**FS** **24 Travis Singleton (So., 1)**; 8 Nate Jones (So., 1)
**CB** 13 Henry Whitehead (Fr., 0); 2 Tirrell Sylvas (Sr., 2)
**P** 4 John White (Fr., 0)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Eastern Michigan Eagles

**Head Coach .....Rick Rasnick**
**1996 Record (MAC).....3–8 (3–5)**
**1997 Prediction .....3rd MAC West**
**Home Field.....Rynearson Stadium (30,200)**

After a 6–5 record in 1995 in Rick Rasnick's first year as head coach, the Eagles were hurt by injuries and slipped to 3–8.

Rasnick has eight returning starters on offense and seven on defense, in addition to quarterback Charlie Batch and defensive back Rodney Nubin, both seniors who missed last year with injuries.

Batch broke 12 school records in 1995, and the other quarterback is no slouch. Walt Church stepped in as a true freshman when Batch went down, started the last nine games and earned MAC Co-Freshman of the Year honors.

The top two tailbacks, seniors Mike Scott and Savon Edwards, also return after combining for 1,396 yards rushing. Edwards also was the second-leading receiver with 32 catches. Senior fullback Mark Crnkovic is a punishing lead blocker.

Senior tight end Pat Laughlin and junior wideout Ta-if Kumasi are Batch's main targets.

The offensive line returns three starters — junior tackles L.J. Shelton and Brian Wilcox and senior guard Mencil Williams. The two vacant offensive line positions are areas of concern.

Senior first-team All-MAC nose guard Lional Dalton leads the defensive charge. Senior outside linebacker Avery Brown, the team's leading returning tackler with 100, led the MAC with 26 tackles for loss and had 11 sacks, both school records.

Other defensive starters returning include senior linebacker Jermaine Brooks, sophomore linebacker Clifton Robinson, senior cornerback Corey Baskin, junior cornerback Demetrius Johnson and senior free safety Terry Reed, who had 92 total tackles.

Add to the defensive mix the return of Nubin, a two-year starter at free safety before missing 1996, and the defense should be in good shape.

Junior Justin Ventura returns as the placekicker, but the punter job is open.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

**WR 80 Ta-if Kumasi (Jr., 2)**; 7 Kenny Christian (So., 1)
**TE 33 Pat Laughlin (Sr., 3)**; 31 Pete Nyikes (So., 1)
**LT 70 L.J. Shelton (Jr. 2)**; 65 DeWayne Geeter-Burns (So., 0)
**LG 60 Mencil Williams (Sr., 1)**; 75 Matt Bolles (Fr., 0)
**C** 67 Tom Michel (So., 1); 62 Craig Cipa (Fr., 0)
**RG** 51 Dushon Faison (Sr., 1); 66 Vance Danzy (Jr., 2)
**RT 76 Brian Wilcox (Jr., 2)**; 79 Jason Pierce (Fr., 0)
**WR** 9 Keijuan Douglas (So., 1); 25 Brandon Campbell (Fr., 0)
**QB** 16 Charlie Batch (Sr., 3); **19 Walt Church (So., 1)**
**FB 32 Mark Crnkovic (Sr., 1)**; 44 Jon Wheatley (Sr., 2)
**TB** 4 Mike Scott (Sr., 3); **1 Savon Edwards (Sr., 3)**
**K 17 Justin Ventura (Jr., 2)**

### DEFENSE (7)

**OLB 59 Jermaine Brooks (Sr., 1)**; 11 Marvin Rushing (Sr., 1)
**DT** 93 Troy Campbell (Jr., 1); 92 Dusty Oller (Jr., 0)
**NG 74 Lional Dalton (Sr., 2)**; 94 Roman Welter (Fr., 0)
**DT** 90 Willie Vaughn (Jr., 2); 73 Plesze Williams (Sr., 2)
**SLB 35 Clifton Robinson (So., 1)**; 29 Derek Vittatoe (Jr., 0)
**MLB** 48 Devon Battle (Sr., 1); 45 Matt Driscoll (Jr., 0)
**WLB 91 Avery Brown (Sr., 3)**; 52 Ashley Travis (So., 1)
**CB** 27 Rodney Nubin (Sr., 3); 21 Phil Franklin (Jr., 2)
**CB 26 Corey Baskin (Sr., 3)**; **12 Demetrius Johnson (Jr., 1)**
**ROV** 36 Willie Barginere (So., 1); 15 Anthony Smith (Jr., 1)
**FS 5 Terry Reed (Sr., 2)**; 13 David Robinson (Sr., 3)
**P** Nick Avondet (Fr., 0); 10 Craig Kantz (So., 0)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*



# Temple Owls

**Head Coach .....Ron Dickerson**
**1996 Record (Big East)..1–10 (0–7)**
**1997 Prediction .....8th Big East**
**Home Field.....Veterans Stadium (66,592)**

The name of the game is winning and Temple is coming off a third 1–10 record in coach Ron Dickerson's four seasons (5–39). Things got so bad that Dickerson even went so far as to announce his resignation after the Owls suffered a 53–52 loss to Pittsburgh. Dickerson reconsidered a day or so later and got pumped up again over the winter. His annual optimism has resurfaced

The Owls return eight starters on each side of the ball. The key assignment will be to find a successor at quarterback.

Temple fans are eagerly awaiting their first look at running back Kevin Harvey, who was pursued by Ohio State, Nebraska and Florida State before signing with Temple a year ago. He didn't qualify and lost a year of eligibility.

The Owls return their leading rusher, tailback Ramod Lee, big (6–2, 227), fast and strong and coming off a year in which he amassed 526 yards and 10 touchdowns.

Troy Kersey, who caught 28 passes for 543 yards and has averaged 20.5 yards a catch in his career, will be the primary receiver. The receiving corps gets a boost from the return of Kevin Walker, who suffered a broken collarbone in the 1996 opener and was granted an extra year of eligibility.

Temple often uses a double-tight end set, which could be the strongest position on offense with Wendell Davis and Shawn Overocker.

The offensive line returns intact, headed by honors candidate Roger Chanoine at left tackle. Pass protection is his strength, which is why he protects the quarterback's blind side.

The linebackers and secondary are in pretty good shape, but the only holdovers up front are end Robert Kelly, an eight-game starter, and nose tackle Larry Chester.

Linebacker Keith Kerrin was the second-leading tackler with 82 stops and had a team-high 51/2 sacks. Decara Burgess, another returning starter, is considered by Dickerson "the kingpin of our linebacking crew." The entire secondary returns.

The Owls return a strong kicking contingent in kicker Zane Michalski and punter Josh Boies.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

**SE** 80 Kenyatta Carter (Jr., 2); 20 Kevin Walker (Sr., 1)
**LT 69 Roger Chanoine (Sr., 3)**; 75 Thomas Moreira (So., 0)
**LG 61 Charlie Morris (Jr., )**; 75 Thomas Moreira (Jr., 0)
**C 66 Jeff Fiss (So., 1)**; 71 J.J. Cardona (Sr., 2)
**RG 63 Scott Oster (Jr., 2)**; 61 Charlie Morris (Jr., 1)
**RT 58 Damion Grant (Sr., 3)**; 74 Tim Leach (So., 0)
**TE 88 Wendell Davis (Sr., 2)**; 85 Shawn Overocker, (Sr., 1)
**QB** 9 Pat Bonner (Jr., 2); 17 Eric White (Fr., 0)
**FB 46 Brent Johnstone (Jr., 2)**; 34 Victor Ford (Jr., 2)
**TB** 32 Ramod Lee (Jr., 2); 4 Franklin McBride (Jr., 2)
**FL 11 Troy Kersey (Sr., 2)**; 10 Kareem Gilliard (Sr., 1)
**K 24 Zane Michalski (Sr., 2)**; 13 Dave Nicholl (Jr., 1)

### DEFENSE (8)

**DE 93 Robert Kelly (Sr., 3)**; 97 Rodney Darius (Fr., 0)
**DT** 98 Kenyatta Williamson (Jr., 2); 90 Mathias Nkwenti (Fr. 0)
**NT** 77 Rick Williams (So., 1); **95 Larry Chester (Sr., 2)**
**DE** 81 Kyle Benzio (Sr., 3); 92 Kevin Rowe (Fr., 0)
**LB 49 Keith Kerrin (Sr., 3)**; 47 Willis McCallum (Fr., 0);
**LB** 87 Fenton Graham (Jr., 2); 28 Greg Ascolese (Jr., 1)
**LB 51 Decara Burgess (Sr., 3)**; 26 Levar Talley (Fr., 0);
**CB 29 Tom Indio (Jr., 2)**; 23 Aaron Patterson (Jr., 1)
**CB 31 Lamond Adams (Jr., 2)**; 7 Excel Lucas (Jr., 1)
**SS 8 Marcus Counts (Sr., 3)**; 42 Lansana Sylla (Jr., 0)
**FS 7 Excel Lucas (Jr., 2)**; 41 Rahmel Meade (So., 1)
**P 18 Josh Boies (Sr., 3)**; 13 Dave Nicholl (Jr., 1)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# UNLV Rebels

101

Head Coach .....Jeff Horton
1996 Record (WAC) .....1–11 (1–7)
1997 Prediction .....7th WAC Pacific
Home Field.....Sam Boyd Stadium (32,000)

Jeff Horton is banking on the arrival of the day that playing UNLV no longer promises a sure win for opponents.

Redshirting all 25 recruits two years ago, Horton took the gamble of tearing down the program and building it back from scratch.

"We're ready to take a step up," says Horton, whose Rebels finished their inaugural WAC season at 1–11. "We've got guys who have played a lot of games now, they're physically more mature, they've been indoctrinated and they're now making plays."

Any reason for optimism lies on offense. UNLV returns nine offensive starters, and in the final four games, averaged 32 points.

Quarterback Jon Denton put up big numbers as a redshirt freshman. He burned San Diego State for 503 yards and four TDs, and threw for 486 yards against Wyoming. Juco transfer Rodrick Johnson should immediate help the ground game that produced only 930 yards, a mere 2.6 yards a carry.

Denton's top four receivers return. Carlos Baker hauled in seven touchdowns, breaking free for 887 yards. Damon Williams is the perfect receiver when tough yardage is needed for a first down. Four of the five starters on the offensive line return.

Defense is another story. UNLV's rushing defense was virtually non-existent. The Rebels gave up 3,228 yards, an average of 269 a game and 5.8 a play. They ranked 109th in Division I-A in rushing defense, 111th in pass defense and total defense. To change those stats and avoid embarrassment, Horton is going with a more aggressive eight-man front.

All four defensive line starters return led by Talance Sawyer. Middle linebacker Scott Patton led the team with 6½ sacks and finished third on the team in tackles with 81.

UNLV had only six interceptions. Free safety Quincy Sanders is the lone returnee in the secondary, and he didn't have one.

Punter Joe Kristosik averaged 42.4 yards. Horton will look to sophomore Tim O'Reilly to handle placekicking.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

WR **82 Carlos Baker (Jr., 2)**; 3 Len Ware (So., 1)
LT 66 James Moore (Fr., 0); 64 Jerald Pierucci (Jr., 2)
LG **64 Jerald Pierucci (Jr., 2)**; 72 John Greer (Fr., 0)
C **76 Bubba Gonzalez (Jr., 1)**; 67 Jon Zaczek (Sr., 3)
RG **78 Mike Reily (Jr., 2)**; 66 James Moore (Fr., 0)
RT **71 Ben Glidewell (Sr., 1)**;79 Mike Williams (So., 1)
TE **89 Sam Mineo (Jr., 2)**; 83 Mike Leatham (Jr., 0)
QB **19 Jon Denton (So., 1)**; 5 Kevin Crook (Jr., 2)
HB **8 Damon Williams (Jr., 2)**; 88 Jason Toohey (Sr., 2)
RB Rodrick Johnson (Jr., 0); 34 Coury Hankins (So., 1)
WR **11 Todd Floyd (Sr., 2)**; 3 Len Ware (So., 1)
K 17 Tim O'Reilly (So., 1)

### DEFENSE (7)

DE **10 Roderick Jones (So., 1)**; 99 Ted Darnell (Jr., 2)
DT Robin Maile (Jr., 0); 92 Derrick Monroe (Jr., 2)
DT **96 Mac Smith (Sr., 1)**; 54 Charles Fisher (Sr., 3)
DE **9 Talance Sawyer (Jr., 2)**; 93 Jean-Hans Stallsmith (So., 1)
LB **52 Scott Patton (Sr., 1)**; 25 A.C. Smith (So., 0)
LB **44 Greg Gales (Jr., 1)**; 56 Justin Simo (Sr., 1)
LB **58 Bret Gilbert (Jr., 2)**; 37 Lamont Hicks (Sr., 3)
CB 46 Bobby Coffman (Jr., 2); 14 Del Bates (Fr., 0)
CB 6 Amar Brisco (So, 1); 24 Shaun Haslip (Fr., 0)
SS Mark Hays (Jr., 0); 22 Randy Black (Fr., 0)
FS **2 Quincy Sanders (Jr., 2)**; 42 Anthony Brown (Jr., 1)
P **97 Joe Kristosik (Jr., 2)**

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# North Texas Eagles

102

Head Coach .....Matt Simon
1996 Record (Big West). 5–6 (3–2)
1997 Prediction .....4th Big West
Home Field.....Fouts Field (30,000)

North Texas is moving up. In 1995, the Eagles jumped from Division I-AA to I-A and went 2–9. Last year, they joined the Big West and improved to 5–6 overall and 3–2 in the conference for a third-place tie.

Three quarterbacks return with starting experience. Senior Jason Mills started six games and led the Eagles with 1,016 yards and five touchdowns.

Junior James "Hut" Allred came on strong late and was one of the top backs in the Big West. He rushed for 642 of his 907 yards in the final five games and averaged 128.4 yards against conference rivals.

The Eagles return all three starting wideouts, tight end and H-back. Junior tight end Brian Waters led the way with 28 receptions. Senior wideout Bo Harrison and juniors Kendrick Hollie and Tubby Coleman combined for 48 catches.

Center Phillip Armour never played on the offensive line until last season and made the all-conference team. Robert Waddle moves from tackle to guard and joins Darrin Faler. Vince Patterson started the final five games at tackle. Laymonde Lee split time with Faler at guard, and Chris Foegelle will start at tackle.

North Texas' defense was one of the best in the Big West. Robert Grant started all 11 games at end, and Darrell Williams and Andre Phillips shared one tackle spot. Also returning is tackle Shawn Green, who started the first two games before suffering a season-ending ankle injury. The other end will be Corbin Epps, who led the Lobos with six sacks and eight tackles for loss.

The Eagles return all-conference outside linebacker Benny Cherry and middle linebacker Ron Boston.

The secondary could be the strongest area. Three of four starters return, including all-conference free safety Dhati Lewis. Strong safety Ron Riley started the last six games. The third holdover is cornerback Detrion Woodson, who started the final eight games.

Both kicker Garrett Courtney and punter John Baker are new and inexperienced.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (9)

WR **4 Tubby Coleman (Jr., 2)**; 6 Jay Young (Jr., 0)
LT 57 Vince Patterson (So., 1); 78 Shane York (Jr., 0)
LG **69 Darrin Faler (Sr., 1)**; 66 Laymonde Lee (Jr., 2)
C **67 Phillip Armour (Jr., 2)**; 62 David Morgan (Fr., 0)
RG **65 Robert Waddle (Sr., 3)**; 71 Aaron Woodard (So., 1)
RT 73 Chris Foegelle (Fr., 0); 54 Kevin Williams (Fr., 0)
TE **40 Brian Waters (Jr., 2)**; 89 Jeremy Harris (So., 1)
QB **14 Jason Mills (Sr., 3)**; 5 LaDarrin McLane (Fr., 0)
RB **38 Hut Allred (Jr., 2)**; 29 Ramon Archie (Jr., 0)
WR **87 Kendrick Hollis (Jr., 1)**; 85 Broderick McGrew (So., 1)
WR **34 Bo Harrison (Sr., 3)**; 8 Coylin Grims (Sr., 3)
K 11 Garrett Courtney (Jr., 0)

### DEFENSE (7)

DE **91 Chance Adair (So., 1)**; 48 Corbin Epps (So., 0)
DT **99 Darrell Williams (So., 1)**; 50 Shawn Green (Jr., 0)
NT 61 Andre Phillips (So., 1); 90 Steve Hunt (Jr., 2)
DE **86 Robert Grant (Sr., 1)**; 96 Joe Johnson (So., 1)
OLB **15 Benny Cherry (Sr., 3)**; 49 Jeff Harris (Fr., 0)
MLB 41 Ron Boston (Sr., 1); 46 Josh Cannon (So., 1)
OLB 45 Morcellius Hills (Jr., 1); 32 Terrence Wilburn (Sr., 2)
CB **23 Detrion Woodson (So., 1)**; 39 Kendrick Sapp (So., 1)
CB 22 Phillip Littlejohn (Jr., 2); 13 Dwyer McKeith (Jr., 0)
SS **9 Ron Riley (Sr., 1)**; 33 Lee Malone (Sr., 0)
FS **3 Dhati Lewis (Sr., 1)**; 37 Calvin Davis (Jr., 2)
P 19 John Baker (So., 0)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# San Jose State Spartans

**Head Coach .....Dave Baldwin**
**1996 Record (WAC) .....3–9 (3–5)**
**1997 Prediction .....8th WAC Pacific**
**Home Field.....Spartan Stadium (31,218)**

Dave Baldwin was there. He remembers the rivalry with Fresno State, the days of upper-tier domination in the Big West, when San Jose State was known for throwing the football, putting up yardage, being competitive and actually winning.

Baldwin coached alongside Jack Elway, head coach in the early 1980s, giving San Jose State its last stab at claiming a tradition. He has returned after a 14-year hiatus to try and bring back some semblance of history and put people back in the stands at Spartan Stadium. How?

"We're going to throw the football and hopefully attract the speed we had in the early 1980s," says Baldwin.

He is looking for someone to throw the ball 40 to 60 times a game. Only two choices exist, senior Dan O'Dell and junior college transfer Brian Vye. Both have the arm strength. O'Dell has more experience.

If Baldwin realistically wants someone to make 80 catches, he'll need junior Windrell Hayes to build on his 58 receptions of a year ago, which led the Spartans.

Baldwin wants to stay with the single-back approach, hoping someone can top 400 yards. Junior Donte Scarbrough is probably the fastest at getting to the hole and should challenge junior halfback Carlos Meeks for the starting position.

The Spartans finished 110th out of 111 teams on defense in Division I-A. Baldwin promises zone blitzes and pressure from the cornerbacks, no matter the coverage.

Senior linebacker Zach Michalski suffered a bicep tendon tear and could be slow to return to full speed. The rest of the linebacking crew is young and, like most positions, unproven.

Baldwin went after secondary quickness in junior college, hoping he's lucky with juniors Lyle West, who was second in the state with nine interceptions, K.J. Agu and Todd Hovey.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

**WR 81 Windrell Hayes (Jr., 2)**; 3 Eric Ruhle (Jr., 0)
**LT** 76 Chris French (Sr., 1); 78 Jason Santos (Jr., 0)
**LG 61 Oscar Garza (Sr., 1)**; 60 Michael Marchan (Fr., 0)
**C 62 Harry Daniels (Jr., 2)**; 55 Trevor Madsen (Jr., 0)
**RG 77 Curtice Macfarlane (Sr., 3)**; 78 Jason Santos (Jr., 0)
**RT** 79 David Loverne (Jr., 1); 70 Jeff Bruce (Fr., 0)
**TE** 83 Brandon Knapp (Jr., 1); 35 Jeff Persson (So, 0)
**QB** 13 Dan O'Dell (Sr., 3); 12 Brian Vye (Jr., 0)
**RB** 26 Carlos Meeks (Jr., 2); 30 Billy Vuniwai (Sr., 2)
**TB 28 James Hodgins ( Jr., 2)**; 5 Donte Scarbrough ( Jr., 1)
**WR** 22 Gabe Payne (Jr., 0); 89 Daniel Willis (Jr., 0)
**K** 20 Seth Wasserman (Jr., 0)

### DEFENSE (6)

**DT 98 Jerald Perry (Sr., 3)**; 92 Abdul–Salam Noah (So., 1)
**NT** 93 Ed Lambert (Fr., 0); 90 Larry Pryor (Fr., 0)
**DT 84 Shon Kendall (Sr., 1)**; 71 Cory Jones (Sr., 2)
**LB 33 Eric Coughran (Sr., 1)**; 99 Cameron Delano (Jr., 1)
**LB 97 Zach Michalski (Sr., 1)**; 53 Sam Kupau (Sr., 3)
**LB** 40 Trevis Wooden (Sr., 1); 48 Josh Parry (So., 0)
**LB** 80 James Ditch (So., 1); 56 Sam Sherrod (So., 1)
**CB 14 Omarr Smith (Jr., 2)**; 2 Ghalee Wadood (Jr., 0)
**CB 27 Eric Polk (Sr., 2)**; 9 R.B. Bonner (Sr., 2)
**SS** 1 Wardell Crutchfield (Sr., 2); 42 Ashanti Hayes (Sr., 1)
**FS** 11 Floyd Johnson (So., 1); 31 Lyle West (Jr., 0)
**P** 36 Jason Chapple (So., 1)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*



# Akron Zips

**Head Coach .....Lee Owens**
**1996 Record (MAC) .....4–7 (3–5)**
**1997 Prediction .....5th MAC East**
**Home Field.....Rubber Bowl (35,202)**

Akron is hoping it's true that you win with defense. The Zips return nine starters and 23 lettermen from a defense that ranked third in the Mid-American Conference, allowing 317.4 yards a game.

But while the defense was holding opponents to 24.5 points a game, the offense was mostly non-existent, scoring 15.9.

Senior linebacker Nate Boyd, who was in on 140 tackles, is the leader of the defense. The linebackers are deep enough for the coaches to try junior Nate Johnson in the secondary. If Johnson makes the switch, junior Eric Small or sophomore Brad King could fill the opening. Sophomore holdover George Cameron returns at the other outside linebacker spot.

Junior Andre McCray, an All-MAC candidate and a fierce hitter, leads the secondary. The returning cornerbacks are juniors George Germany and Jon Eaton.

Senior Tarik West and junior Jamey Bennett man the tackles, where sophomore Ron Smith has great potential.

On offense, sophomore quarterback Greg Gromek started the final four games and Akron won three of them.

Seniors Chris Rooney and Jamie Reader are punishing fullbacks. Tailback is wide open, but sophomore Mike Lagasse proved to be an elusive runner when healthy.

Sophomore Willie Spencer, the opening-game quarterback, has moved to wide receiver. Junior Carl Whitt is the leading returning receiver with 14 catches for 237 yards.

Senior Chad Zgonc has the most experience at tight end. Junior Shane Ladner, if his injury has been repaired, and Chuck Webb, a former defensive end, could challenge Zgonc.

The offensive line blossomed during the final month of the '96 season and three starters appear solid — sophomore tackle Steve Hale, junior guard Kevin Kuntz and sophomore guard Dan Wessman. Junior Bill Hildebrand will challenge at either center or tackle, and sophomore Rex Pyles will push to fill a tackle spot.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

**SE** 44 Terrel Dixon (Jr., 2); 86 Bill Hammett (Fr., 0)
**LT 64 Steve Hale (So., 1)**; 79 Joe Trudeau (Fr., 0)
**LG 78 Kevin Kuntz (Jr., 2)**; 68 Chad Smith (Fr., 0)
**C** 70 Bill Hildebrand (Jr., 2); 62 Brock Knisely (So., 1)
**RG 60 Dan Wessman (So., 1)**; 69 Brian McCann (So., 0)
**RT** 71 Rex Pyles (So., 1); 64 Steve Hale (So., 1)
**TE** 85 Chad Zgonc (Sr., 3); 98 Chuck Webb (Jr., 2)
**QB 18 Greg Gromek (So., 1)**; 14 James Washington (Fr., 0)
**FB 39 Chris Rooney (Sr., 1)**; 38 Jamie Reader (Sr., 3)
**TB** 26 Mike Lagasse (So., 1); 33 Bo Hunter (So., 0)
**SE** 11 Carl Whitt (Jr., 2); 6 Willie Spencer (So., 1)
**K 15 Jamie Stidham (Sr., 1)**; 19 Nick Jamison (So., 0)

### DEFENSE (9)

**DE** 94 Jeremy Maxa (Jr., 2); 95 Ron Smith (So., 1)
**DT 50 Tarik West (Sr., 2)**; 48 Eric Anderson (Sr., 3)
**DT 92 Jamey Bennett (Jr., 2)**; 63 Anthony Slimon (So.,0)
**DE 41 Corey Christian (Sr., 3)**; 91 Jason Wiggins (Fr., 0)
**LB** 7 George Cameron (So., 1); 46 Pat Powell (Sr., 2)
**LB 49 Nate Boyd (Sr., 2)**; 55 Bill Burke (So., 1)
**LB 43 Eric Small (Jr., 2)**; 52 Brad King (So., 1)
**CB 23 George Germany (Jr., 2)**; 21 Jerome Cargile (Jr., 2)
**CB 16 Jon Eaton (Jr., 2)**; 8 Henry Cook (So., 1)
**SS 34 Nate Johnson (Jr., 2)**; 29 Julius Lancaster (So., 1)
**FS 31 Andre McCray (Jr., 2)**; 20 Mike Hughes (So., 1)
**P 37 Mike Hayes (Jr., 2)**; 15 Jamie Stidham (Sr., 1)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Ball State Cardinals

105

Head Coach .....Bill Lynch
1996 Record (MAC) .....8–4 (7–1)
1997 Prediction .....4th MAC West
Home Field.....Ball St. Stadium (21,581)

The good news for Ball State is that the Cardinals are the only Mid-American Conference school to play in two Las Vegas Bowls since the game was established in 1992. They lost both times, but Ball State has the best record in MAC games in the last four years (25–6–2).

The bad news is that only eight starters return — four on offense, four on defense.

Coach Bill Lynch might be able to put together a productive offense with the return of junior tailback LeAndre Moore and some strong blockers.

The returning regulars are junior tackles Eric Lows and Joe Schmitt, junior tight end Dane Wheeler and junior fullback Mike Pickett. Wheeler caught only six passes last season.

Moore also is the second-leading returning pass-catcher with 11. The No. 1 pass-catcher is sophomore wideout Adrian Reese (16 receptions, 15.4 average).

The defensive returnees are junior tackle Damon Hummel, senior outside linebacker Jeff Phelps, senior inside linebacker Howard Simms and senior strong safety Keyon Laws. Hummel was an all-conference first-team selection. Phelps led the team with three forced fumbles and four recoveries. Simms racked up 114 tackles.

There are plenty of experienced backups available to fill the openings on defense.

Ball State is pushing senior placekicker Brent Lockliear as a candidate for the Lou Groza Award. Lockliear had the nation's second-highest field goal success rate last year (10-of-11, 90.9 percent) and is 28-of-36 for his career.

Laws led the Cardinals in punt returns with an 18.9-yard average on 10 runbacks. He also was the top kickoff returner in 1995 and may reclaim that assignment.

One final note: In the past 11 seasons, all 117 players who have been with the team at least four years have been part of a championship and played in a bowl game.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (4)

**WR** 39 Adrian Reese (So., 1); 6 Tim Geeseman (Sr. 2)
**LT** **50 Eric Lows (Jr., 1)**; 62 Kim Pigatto (Jr., 0)
**LG** 69 Matt Ehrhardt (Jr., 1); 64 Jarrod Mason (Jr., 0)
**C** 53 John Cate (Sr., 2); 57 Jeff Eager (Jr., 0)
**RG** 77 Jason Hasty (Jr., 0); 70 Matt Boehman (Fr., 0)
**RT** **75 Joe Schmitt (Jr., 1)**; 78 Jason Bowman (So., 0)
**TE** **82 Dane Wheeler (Jr., 2)**; 95 Brian VanDaele (Sr., 3)
**QB** 8 Rob McCready (Jr., 0); 15 Jake Joseti (So., 0)
**FB** **32 Mike Pickett (Jr., 2)**; 24 Jason Kent (Sr., 2)
**TB** 41 LeAndre Moore (Jr., 2); 35 James Terrell (Jr., 0)
**WR** 1 Manuel Compas (Jr., 2); 28 Nate Perry (So., 1)
**K** **2 Brent Lockliear (Sr., 3)**

### DEFENSE (4)

**DE** 56 Wilber McDonald (Sr., 1); 58 Lloyd Brown (Sr., 2)
**DT** **98 Damon Hummel (Jr., 2)**; 66 Sunungura Rusununguko (So., 1)
**DT** 93 Leonard Flowers (Jr., 1); 66 Sunungura Rusununguko (So., 1)
**DE** 44 Jerald O'Risky (Sr., 2); 58 Lloyd Brown (Sr., 2)
**LB** **23 Jeff Phelps (Sr., 3)**; 83 Jason Arnold (So., 1)
**LB** **55 Howard Simms (Sr., 3)**; 52 Marvin Llewellyn (So., 1);
**LB** 37 Ermest Pressley (So., 1); 49 Matt Rabe (Jr., 1)
**CB** 13 Karl Moore (Jr., 2); 30 Darrell Murff (Jr., 0)
**CB** 5 Raphaol Ball (Sr., 3); 17 Pete Smith (Fr., 0)
**SS** **16 Keyon Laws (Sr., 3)**; 42 Lowell Faison (So., 1)
**FS** 21 Troy Ramey (Sr., 1); 10 Lecedus Thompson
**P** Kevin Jennings (So., 0); Michael Tinder (So., 0)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# UTEP Miners

106

Head Coach .....Charlie Bailey
1996 Record (WAC) .....2–9 (0–8)
1997 Prediction .....8th WAC Mountain
Home Field.....Sun Bowl (52,000)

Coach Charlie Bailey hopes that all of the changes being made at UTEP won't be just cosmetic.

"We'll look good coming off the bus," he says. "But I don't know how good we'll be."

That's Bailey's way of saying the Miners will take the field with bigger, better athletes in 1997. Whether that will translate into more victories is hard to say.

The Miners were shut out by TCU and SMU, hardly two of college football's most intimidating defenses. UTEP finished next to last in the WAC in total offense, averaging 282 yards and 17 points a game, wasting a strong defensive effort.

Junior college transfer Craig Strickland got a chance to become the established quarterback in spring practice. New offensive coordinator Gary Nord is designing a balanced, pro-style offense after working under Howard Schnellenberger for much of his career.

Fullback Elzie Johnson was a midseason discovery as a freshman, gaining 203 yards against Tulsa and finishing second on the team in rushing and receiving.

UTEP lost Cedric Johnson, who was responsible for more than a third of the team's receptions. Senior Jermaine Brown and junior Jimmy Carpenter made some impact, but landing junior college receivers was a priority.

UTEP's defense was steady but unspectacular, recording a WAC-low 12 sacks and just 18 takeaways. Still, the Miners finished a strong second in the conference, allowing 340 yards per game but surrendering some 29 points per contest.

Ronnie Jones takes over as the defensive coordinator. He coached UTEP's receivers last season but spent the previous nine years working with NFL defenses, including two as the Arizona Cardinals' coordinator under Buddy Ryan. Jones will bring a more aggressive personality to the Miner defense, which boasts nine returning starters.

Cornerback Michael Hicks tied for second on the team with three touchdowns last season.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

**WR** **89 Jimmy Carpenter (Jr., 2)**; 81 Allen Ray (Fr., 0)
**LT** **77 Anwar White (Sr., 3)**; 75 Brent Hunt (Fr., 0)
**LG** 78 Mike Pry (So., 1); 57 Branden Cumbie (Jr., 2)
**C** 51 Carey Clayton (Fr., 0); 70 David Serna (Jr., 1)
**RG** 60 Robert Carter (So., 1); 76 Yancy Turner (Jr., 2)
**RT** **59 Alan Gray (Jr., 2)**; 79 Jeff Seeton (So., 1)
**TE** 87 Brian Natkin (Fr., 0); 84 Clifford Johnston (So., 1)
**QB** 7 Craig Strickland (Jr., 0); 17 Rocky Perez (Fr., 0)
**FB** 27 Paul Smith (So., 1); **39 Elzie Johnson (So., 1)**
**HB** **20 Joseph Polk (Jr., 2)**; 33 Terrence Johnson (Sr., 2)
**WR** 3 Ray Murphy (Jr., 2); 85 Chris Taylor (Fr,.0)
**K** 18 Ricky Bishop (Fr., 0)

### DEFENSE (8)

**DE** **56 Mike Deal (So., 1)**; 66 Brian Young (So., 1)
**NT** **55 George Banks (Sr., 1)**; 92 Tony Wallace (Sr., 0)
**DE** 58 Menson Holloway (So., 1); 90 Leif Larsen (So., 1)
**LB** 49 Zack Wirth (Sr., 1); **4 Terrance Blaine (Sr., 1)**
**LB** **42 Brent Henderson (Sr., 3)**; 65 Eric Wells (So., 0)
**LB** 50 Dale Kirry (Jr., 2); 45 John Crutcher (Jr., 1)
**LB** 19 Jason Young (Sr., 1); 52 Derek Wright (Jr., 2)
**CB** **29 David Terrell (Sr., 3)**; 16 Darius Ellison (Jr., 2)
**CB** **6 Michael Hicks (Jr., 2)**; 12 David Cotchery (Jr., 2)
**SS** **30 Kilangi Maugututia (Sr., 1)**; 22 Javier Sanchez (So., 1)
**FS** **31 Joe Riccillo (Sr., 3)**; 40 Rick Molina (Fr., 0)
**P** TBA

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Western Michigan Broncos

**Head Coach ..... Gary Darnell**
**1996 Record (MAC) ..... 2–9 (2–6)**
**1997 Prediction ..... 5th MAC West**
**Home Field..... Waldo Stadium (30,200)**

New coach Gary Darnell comes with impeccable credentials and who will forever be the answer to a trivia question: Who was the head coach at Florida before Steve Spurrier?

Darnell's last three stops have been at three of college football's premier programs — Florida (1988-89), assistant head coach and defensive coordinator at Notre Dame (1990-91) and assistant head coach (1992-93) and defensive coordinator (1994-96) at Texas. He also was head coach at Tennessee Tech from 1983-85.

Darnell has changed Western's defensive alignment from a 4–4 to a 4–3 and likes the speed on that side of the ball.

Western Michigan returns six starters on offense and seven on defense. The only letterman running back is sophomore Robert Hatch, who gained 182 yards.

Expect the Broncos to put the ball in the air with sophomore Tim Lester at quarterback. Last season, Lester completed a school-record 203 passes for 2,189 yards and 14 touchdowns and shared MAC Freshman of the Year honors. However, on the receiving end, the only letterman returning is tight end Jake Moreland who caught 28 passes for 206 yards and a touchdown. Four members of the interior offensive line also are back.

On defense, 22 lettermen return, led by senior two-year regulars Rick Lucas at outside linebacker and Heron O'Neal at cornerback. The front line was hit hard by graduation, where tackle Dan Falcon is the only returning starter.

Three starters are back from last year's four linebackers: Lucas, Steve Roon and Reggie Thompson, who has been moved to strong safety.

Besides O'Neal, the secondary returns cornerback Tarrance McEvans and cornerback Eric Nunlee.

Both kickers return, but neither has outstanding numbers.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (6)

**SE** 1 Steve Neal (So., 0); 85 Mike Hutchings (Jr., 0)
**LT** 69 Charlie Knapp (So., 1); **71 Jason Cavanaugh (Jr., 2)**
**LG** **54 J.K. Haehnle (Jr., 1)**; 62 Gary Nicklasch (Sr., 0)
**C** 79 Steve Wark (So., 1); 60 Paul Lambert (Fr., 0)
**RG** **72 Jim DeWald (Sr., 1)**; 61 Colin Greczek (Fr., 0)
**RT** **55 Joe Lewandowski (Sr., 3)**; 76 Ron Atcheson (So., 0)
**TE** **86 Jake Moreland (So., 1)**; 84 Josh Sullivan (Jr., 0)
**QB** **13 Tim Lester (So., 1)**; 18 John Holba (Jr., 0)
**FB** 30 William Henagan (So., 0); 37 Greg Peterson (So.,0 )
**HB** 6 Robert Hatch (So., 1); 17 Darnell Fields (So., 0)
**FL** 20 Kelcey Dudley (Fr., 0); 27 Nick Johnson (Sr., 0)
**K** **14 Louis Forbrich (So., 1)**; 16 Chris Tesseris (So., 0)

### DEFENSE (7)

**DE** 93 Nate Wolkow (Jr., 1); 97 Dane Sexton (Jr., 1)
**DT** **99 Dan Falcon (Jr., 2)**; 89 Tom Rozema (So., 1)
**NT** 95 Jeremy Johnson (So., 1); 90 John Deming (So., 0)
**DE** 91 Ryan Bauer (Sr., 1); 35 Eric Bettys (So., 0)
**LB** **29 Rick Lucas (Sr., 3)**; 22 Bill Chopp (Jr., 2)
**LB** **43 Steve Roon (Sr., 3)**; 56 Garrett Soldano (Fr., 0)
**LB** 32 Scott Niles (So., 1); 59 Mario Evans (Fr., 0)
**CB** **2 Heron O'Neal (Sr., 3)**; 19 Calvin Harley (So., 1)
**CB** **25 Eric Nunlee (So., 1)**; 33 Robert Kelly (Sr., 1)
**SS** 24 Tarrence McEvans (Sr., 2); **5 Reggie Thompson (Jr., 2)**
**FS** **21 William Reed (So., 1)**; 46 Steve Maloney (Sr., 2)
**P** **7 Zak Kemp (Jr., 2)**

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*



# Arkansas State Indians

**Head Coach ..... Joe Hollis**
**1996 Record..... 4–7**
**Home Field..... Indian Stadium (33,410)**

Arkansas State's last four head coaches all had University of Alabama backgrounds: John Bobo, Ray Perkins, Al Kincaid and Larry Lacewell.

Only Lacewell, who grew up in the same Arkansas town as former Alabama coach Paul "Bear" Bryant, a close friend of the family had a winning record (69–58–4 in 13 years).

Enough Alabama already. Arkansas State has decided to go the Auburn route. The new head man is Joe Hollis, an Auburn alum who coached the offensive line at his alma mater in 1978-79. Hollis has been offensive coordinator at Ohio State for the last five years.

The Indians set numerous passing records last year and both quarterbacks return. Jeremie Watkins ended the year as the starter and threw for 1,481 yards and a school-record 15 touchdowns. Brent Pettus started three games. Neither of the two will hurt an opponent running with the ball.

Lamont Zachery, a sprinter on the track team, didn't start a game but led the Indians with 846 rushing yards

Lennie Johnson tied a school single-season record with 47 receptions. He had 796 receiving yards to rank second on the team.

There's plenty of experience on the offensive line, although only tackle Todd Frohbieter and center Sean Burdick are listed as returning starters.

Clarence Williams, who started all 11 games at defensive end, anchors the defensive front. The returning starters at linebacker are Lavell Alexander on the outside and Koetter Little in the middle. They are the top two returning tacklers.

The secondary lost three starters, leaving cornerback Chappell Mitchell as the only holdover. Returning after a year's absence is junior cornerback Rodney Allen, a 1995 starter.

Senior Scot Simons punted for a 40.2-yard average, but the Indians must come up with a placement specialist to replace Jeff Caldwell. Backups Chris Stevens and Jeff Sowell will battle it out.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

**WR** **19 Lennie Johnson (Jr., 2)**; 8 Sean Cockrell (So., 1)
**LT** **77 Todd Frohbieter (Jr., 2)**; 79 Bobby Ginder (Fr, 0)
**LG** 73 Jamie Pond (Fr., 0); 52 Lann Wilf (Sr., 1)
**C** **66 Sean Burdick (Sr, 1)**; 50 Jack Wright (Fr., 0)
**RG** 70 Jason Sink (Sr., 1); 69 Joe O'Bar (Fr., 0)
**RT** 74 Matt Turner (Sr., 1); 60 Justin Rhodes (So., 1)
**TE** 87 Ron Teat (So., 1); 42 Rennell Woods (Sr., 3)
**QB** **13 Jeremie Watkins (Jr., 1)**; 15 Brent Pettus (Sr., 3)
**FB** **41 Jason Allcorn (So, 1)**; 40 Ian Sullivan (So., 1)
**RB** 32 Lamont Zachery (So., 1); 45 Austin Tinsley (Sr., 0)
**WR** 22 J.J. Washington (Jr., 2); 26 Ramone Lee (So., 1)
**K** 82 Chris Stevens (Jr., 1); 46 Jeff Sowell (So., 0)

### DEFENSE (6)

**DE** **84 Clarence Williams (Jr., 2)**; 94 Steven Dozier (Fr., 0)
**RT** **59 Matt Smith (Jr., 2)**; 91 Daniel Alvares (So., 1)
**LT** **95 Sedrick Richardson (Jr, 2)**; 76 MaQuonzie Thomas (So., 1)
**DE** 58 Chris Petersen (Sr., 3); 17 Kelvin Tate (Sr., 2)
**LB** **10 Lavell Alexander (Sr., 1)**; 49 Brad Davis (So., 0)
**LB** 12 Corey Bowens (So., 1); 98 Jeremy Vincent (Fr., 0)
**LB** **43 Koetter Little (Jr., 2)**; 35 Jeremy Konvalinka (Jr., 0)
**CB** **21 Chappell Mitchell (Jr., 2)**; 4 Demond Davis (So., 1)
**CB** Rodney Allen (Jr., 1); 36 Denarius McCoy (Fr., 0)
**SS** 1 Cornelius Cleary (So., 1); 6 Denishio Blanchett (So., 1)
**FS** 29 Alfonzo Peoples (Sr., 2); 34 Sean Mitchell (Fr., 0)
**P** **9 Scot Simons (Sr., 1)**; 16 Corey Fogle (Fr., 0)

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Kent Golden Flashes

109

Head Coach .....Jim Corrigal
1996 Record (MAC).....2–9 (1–7)
1997 Prediction.....6th MAC East
Home Field.....Dix Stadium (30,520)

Kent has nowhere to go but up, and coach Jim Corrigall is confident that will happen.

The Golden Flashes are coming off a 2–9 campaign. They finished last (1–7) in the Mid-American Conference, capped by a 76–27 mauling at the hands of Western Michigan.

Kent's strength is the offense, led by senior All-MAC tailback Astron Whatley and the record-setting combination of junior quarterback Todd Goebbel and sophomore wide receiver Eugene Baker.

Whatley has been Kent's leading rusher for the past three seasons and is the second-leading rusher in school history with 3,113 yards, including 1,132 a year ago. Whatley has 24 100-yard games for his career.

Goebbel is well on his way to rewriting Kent's career passing records after last year's 354 attempts, 198 completions, 2,427 yards and 19 TDs. Baker caught 69 passes and set single-season marks with 1,215 yards and 13 touchdowns.

"We have probably the best tailback and wide receiver in the league," Corrigall says.

The offensive line returns four starters. Senior center Bob Hallen and senior tackle Steve Zahursky are All-MAC candidates.

The leading tacklers in each of the last two seasons return at linebacker. Senior Roger Terry was tops (154) last year. Junior Justin Sanford was second with 120 stops after recording a team-leading 136 in 1995. Sophomore Dave Holderbaum is the likely third starter.

The defensive line returns three starters in senior end Courtney Short, senior tackle Shawn Thompson and junior tackle Dejon Young.

At the end of last season, three freshmen were starting in the secondary. Cornerback Benny Jones, strong safety Geoff Betts and free safety Gary McCullough are sophomores now. Junior-college cornerback Wayne Shaw could step in somewhere.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (8)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | 86 William Young (Jr., 1); 84 Jonathan Williams (Jr., 2) |
| LT | **72 Steve Zahursky (Sr., 3)**; 67 Dennis Muse (Jr., 0) |
| LG | **75 Brian Moore (Sr., 1)**; 58 Chris Heywood (Jr., 1) |
| C | **66 Bob Hallen (Sr., 3)**; 61 Jeff Krysiak (Fr., 0) |
| RG | **73 Duvall Braxton (Jr., 2)**; 60 Shane Farris (Fr., 0) |
| RT | 76 Ron White (Sr., 0); 70 Dennis Glasby (Jr., 0) |
| TE | 46 Jason Gavadza (So., 1); 89 Conrado Ayala (Jr., 0) |
| QB | **13 Todd Goebbel (Jr., 2)**; 3 Brian Magrall (Jr., 0) |
| FB | **35 Joe Miller (Sr., 3)**; 29 Leroy Arrington (Fr., 0) |
| TB | **4 Astron Whatley (Sr., 3)**; 34 Marlon Gates (Jr., 2) |
| FL | **2 Eugene Baker (So., 2)**; 8 Mark Britt (Jr., 1) |
| K | 17 Joe Romano (Sr., 1) |

### DEFENSE (8)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | **44 Courtney Short (Sr., 3)**; 96 Chris Cogan (Jr., 2) |
| DT | **93 Dejon Young (Jr., 2)**; 92 Richard Bender (So., 0) |
| DT | **77 Shawn Thompson (Sr., 3)**; 48 Jason Pence (Fr., 0) |
| DE | 14 Lavell Ellis (Jr., 2); 53 Brian Pelkey (Jr., 1) |
| LB | 57 Dave Holderbaum (So., 1); 11 Shervin Fulford (Jr., 0) |
| LB | **1 Roger Terry (Sr., 2)**; 20 Matt Rayl (Fr., 0) |
| LB | **45 Justin Sanford (Jr., 3)**; 52 Wayne Stevenson (Jr., 0) |
| CB | 6 Wayne Shaw (Jr., 0); 39 Craig Johnson (So., 0) |
| CB | **31 Benny Jones (So., 1)**; 21 Murad Holliday (So., 1) |
| SS | **9 Geoff Betts (So., 1)**; 15 Sam Sharp (Fr., 0) |
| FS | **42 Gary McCullough (So., 1)**; 25 Eric Pierre-Louis (Jr., 2) |
| P | 12 Matt Groff (So., 1) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Boise State Broncos

110

Head Coach .....Houston Nutt
1996 Record (Big West). 2–10 (1–4)
1997 Prediction.....5th Big West
Home Field.....Bronco Stadium (30,000)

It didn't take Houston Nutt long to learn the facts of life at Boise State. Nutt had no sooner arrived last December to announce his hiring as head coach when he spotted a billboard across the street from the university that read: "Welcome Coach Nutt — Beat Idaho!"

Nutt inherits seven starters on offense and five on defense from a team that lost four games by six points or less.

Of the quarterbacks competing to replace four-year starter Tony Hilde, sophomore Bryan Harsin is the only one who has taken a snap at the varsity level (4-of-7 passing).

Senior halfback Reggie Etheridge led the Broncos with 811 yards and five touchdowns. He also is the top returning receiver with 25 catches. Returning fullback Jessie Chan, a junior, is a solid blocker but carried the ball only five times.

The only Bronco receivers with experience are juniors Ryan Stearns and Tony Mamaril. Junior tight end Jim Brekke struggled through an injury-plagued season after an outstanding year as a true freshman.

Seven players return to the offensive line who were either starters or key reserves. The holdover starters are sophomore tackle Keith Dilworth, junior guard Jermaine Belin, sophomore guard Ryan Groneman and sophomore center Joey Horvat. Belin will move back to tackle, the position he played in 1995.

The defensive line is another story. Tackles Jay Gibson, a junior, and Jon Rydman, a sophomore, are returning starters, but there is not much experience elsewhere. Other candidates for the line include sophomore Dave Stachelski, senior Brian Steger, redshirt freshmen Rich Rone and Craig Goodworth and junior Jacob Howes, a transfer from Utah State. Ryan Brinkley is the only holdover at linebacker.

Junior free safety Jeff Davis, sophomore cornerback Ross Farris and senior corner Jason Payne combined for 82 tackles and five interceptions in 1994 and 1995. Payne wrecked a knee and saw only limited action last season.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (7)

| | |
|---|---|
| WR | Ryan Stearns (Jr., 1); Shaunard Harts (Fr., 0) |
| LT | **Jermaine Belin (Jr., 2)**; Greg Klum (So., 1) |
| LG | **Ryan Groneman (So., 1)**; Jarrad Renner (Jr., 0) |
| C | **Joey Horvat (So., 1)** |
| RG | Jeremy Mankins (So., 1); Josh Alverez (Sr., 1) |
| RT | **Keith Dilworth (So., 1)** |
| TE | **Jim Brekke (Jr., 2)**; Brad Arbon (Jr., 0) |
| QB | Nate Sparks (Jr., 0); Bryan Harsin (So., 1) |
| FB | **Jessie Chan (Jr., 1)**; Eron Hurley (Jr., 2) |
| HB | **Reggie Etheridge (Sr., 1)**; Nicko Tatum (So., 1) |
| WR | Tony Mamaril (Jr., 2); Zeke Johnson (Fr., 0) |
| K | **Todd Belcastro (Jr., 1)** |

### DEFENSE (5)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | Dave Stachelski (So., 0); Chad Heimgartner (Sr., 1) |
| DT | **Jon Rydman (So., 1)**; Rich Rone (Fr., 0) |
| DT | **Jay Gibson (Jr., 2)**; Jacob Howes (Jr., 0) |
| DE | Brian Steger (Sr., 1); Chad Moore (Sr., 0) |
| LB | **Ryan Brinkley (So., 1)**; Shay Swan (Fr., 0) |
| LB | Bryan Johnson (So., ); Shawn Sandoval (Fr., ) |
| LB | Tyrer Dayton (Fr., 0); Faraja Greathouse (So., 1) |
| CB | **Ross Farris (So., 1)**; Damien Schilling (So., 1) |
| CB | Casey Fisher (Fr., 0); Jason Payne (Sr., 3) |
| SS | Kevin Chiles (Jr., 2); Makeesh Brooks (So., 1) |
| FS | **Jeff Davis (Jr., 2)**; Dan Kemper (Fr., 0) |
| P | **Jeff Davis (Jr., 2)** |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# Northern Illinois Huskies

111

**Head Coach** ..... **Joe Novak**
**1996 Record** ..... **1–10**
**1997 Prediction** ..... **6th MAC West**
**Home Field** ..... **Huskie Stadium (31,000)**

Back to the MAC. NIU was a MAC member from 1975-85, then played as an independent from 1986-92 and again in 1996 following a three-year hitch (1993-95) in the Big West Conference.

Northern Illinois figures to be a whipping boy after a 1-10 record in coach Joe Novak's first season.

The Huskies' lone win was 31-30 over Arkansas State, and they finished 105th nationally in scoring, 104th in total offense, 110th in rushing defense. Those gloomy stats were based on 111 I-A teams.

The Huskies return five starters on offense and eight on defense, but 65 percent of the roster is freshmen or sophomores.

The tailback job will be a scrap between sophomores Mike Stokes and Mike Johnson and redshirt freshman Ricardo King. Fullback takes on a new dimension with 242-pound sophomore Mike Stack and 260-pound redshirt freshman Terrence Tate.

The new quarterback will be sophomore Randall Foster, who had two starts and completed only 13-of-39 passes for 158 yards.

Wide receiver Deon "Neon" Mitchell led the Huskies in catches (36), receiving yards (524) and all-purpose yards (1,281). Rhasaan Smith is projected as the other wideout. Junior Bobby Reed takes over at tight end.

The offensive line returns four starters and averages 6-4 and 308 pounds. Guard Kent "Phone" Booth and tackle Jamie MacDonald are All-MAC candidates.

Novak likes the speed in the versatile secondary. The linebacking corps returns Perry Amoo and Mumin Muhammad at the outside spots. Steve Smith, a 1995 starter, is back in the middle.

The defensive line returns Will Ford and Ebbie Parsons. Freshman Lamain Rucker, rated the No. 1 prospect in the Chicago Public League, will help immediately.

Kicker Brian Clark and punter Kent Baker both return.

## Depth Chart

### OFFENSE (5)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | **3 Deon Mitchell (Jr., 2)**; 7 Jahi Garrett (So., 0) |
| LT | **62 Jamie MacDonald (Sr., 2)**; 78 Dennis Puralewski (Fr., 0) |
| LG | 77 Mike Belmontez (Jr., 1); 63 Jeff Winiarski (Fr., 0) |
| C | **64 Bill Wise (Jr., 2)**; 70 Wayne Thomson (Jr., 0) |
| RG | **73 Kent Booth (Sr., 2)**; 61 Matt Cockrum (Fr., 0) |
| RT | **71 Chris Thornton (Sr., 2)**; 61 Matt Cockrum (Fr., 0) |
| TE | 80 Bobby Reed (Jr., 2); 88 Kevin Holm (Fr., 0) |
| FL | 81 Rhasaan Smith (So., 1); 5 Cordell Smith (Jr., 2) |
| QB | 15 Randall Foster (So., 1); 6 Brendan Doyle (Fr., 0) |
| FB | 40 Mike Stack (So., 1); 30 Terrence Tate (Fr., 0) |
| TB | 25 Mike Stokes (So., 1); 22 Mike Johnson (So., 1) |
| K | **17 Brian Clark (Jr., 2)**; 18 Kent Baker (So., 1) |

### DEFENSE (8)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | **99 Will Ford (Sr., 1)**; 58 Bob Lesher (So., 1) |
| DT | 93 Dan Stankowski (Jr., 2); 97 Abie Camacho (Sr., 1) |
| NT | **66 Ebbie Parsons (So., 1); 50 Bill Simpson (Sr., 1)** |
| DE | **37 Orlando Bowen (Jr., 2)**; 92 Lewis Miskowicz (Fr., 0) |
| OLB | **33 Mumim Muhammad (So., 1)**; 45 Garett Sutherland (Sr., 2) |
| MLB | 51 Steve Smith (Sr., 3); 35 Glen Bloodsaw (So., 1) |
| OLB | **23 Perry Amoo (Jr., 2)**; 36 Jason Douglas (So., 1) |
| CB | **14 Duane Hawthorne (Jr., 2)**; 1 Buster Sampson (So., 0) |
| CB | **32 William Triplett (Sr., 3)**; 29 Jesse Traylor (So., 0) |
| SS | 9 Rayshon Jackson (Jr., 2); 44 Salim Phillips (Sr., 3) |
| FS | 4 Aldarryl Jones (Sr., 1); 8 Bill Brune (Fr., 0) |
| P | **18 Kent Baker (So., 1)** |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*

# New Mexico State Aggies

112

**Head Coach** ..... **Tony Samuel**
**1996 Record (Big West)**. **1–10 (0–5)**
**1997 Prediction** ..... **6th Big West**
**Home Field** ..... **Aggie Memorial Stadium (30,343)**

New Mexico's newest coach, Tony Samuel, spent the last 11 seasons coaching the outside linebackers at Nebraska, where he was a two-year starter himself at defensive end in the 1970s.

New Mexico State returns seven starters, four on offense and three on defense from last year's 1–10 team (0–5 in the Big West).

Chad Salisbury, last year's quarterback, transferred because the new offense calls for more mobility than his 6–7, 245-pound frame could offer. Ty Houghtaling started once last year and was 14-of-36 on the season for 161 yards without a touchdown.

Denvis Manns rushed for 1,120 yards as a freshman and 1,086 last season. Now he will have a fullback as a lead blocker, a position the Aggies haven't utilized in the '90s. That could be incoming freshmen Mike Cunningham and Damon Willson or senior Gary Jessie, who has moved from linebacker.

Senior wideout Duane Gregory should become the school's all-time receiving leader. He needs 13 catches and 757 yards to break the existing records.

The offensive line returns only two starters, sophomore guard George Hudson and sophomore tackle Jared Schmidt, both of whom started as true freshmen.

On defense, the Aggies yielded a whopping 454.6 yards a game and 53 touchdowns last year.

The only returning starter up front is senior DuShane Briggs. Sophomore Tim Engelhardt started three of the last four games at tackle. Seniors Enrique Ramirez and Jerry Atkinson, last year's starters at outside linebacker, are now down linemen.

Despite losing both starters at inside linebacker, the Aggies still could be strong. Senior Sean L'Ecluse was a part-time starter, and senior Kendrie Nichols is a veteran backup. Junior Max Wade, who started four games at strong safety, has been moved to linebacker.

The only returning starter in the secondary is junior strong safety Jobe Lewis.

Kicker Brad Hopkins faces a challenge from incoming freshman Andy Kohl. Wade also punted for the first eight games.

## Depth Chart

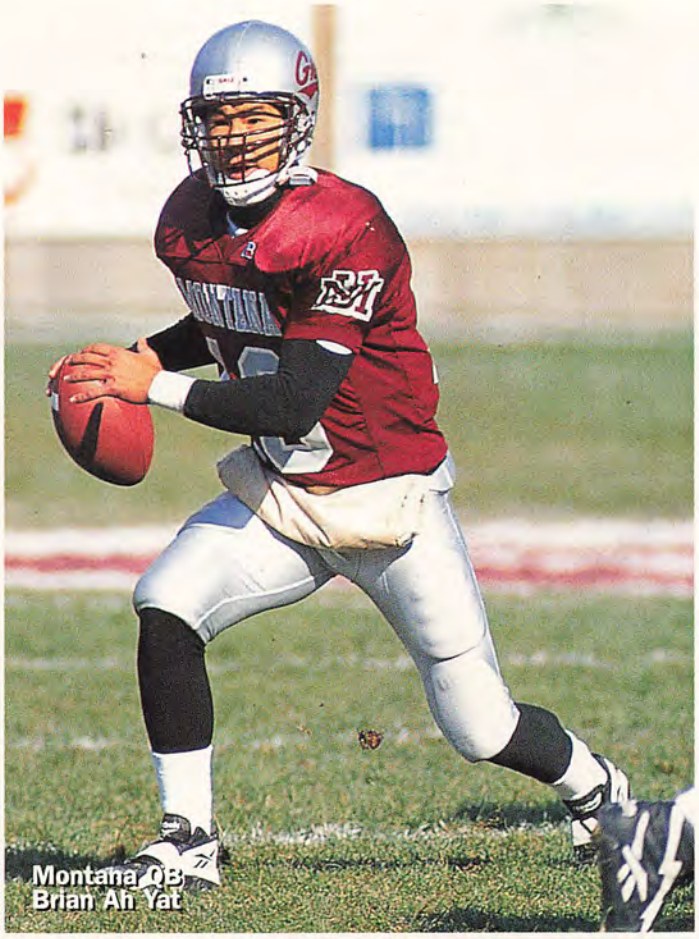
### OFFENSE (4)

| | |
|---|---|
| SE | 2 A.T. Holloway (So., 1); 12 Ryan Shaw (So., 1) |
| LT | **74 Jared Schmidt (So, 1)**; 71 Trevis Beckworth (Fr., 0) |
| LG | **52 George Hudson (So., 1)**; Casey Gray (Fr., 0) |
| C | 54 Matt Hancock (Fr., 0); 60 Jason Smith (Jr., 2) |
| RG | 62 Jason Berger (So., 1); 70 Paul Ballenger (Fr., 0) |
| RT | 72 Charlie Rotche (Jr., 2) 61 Kenny Noggler (Fr., 0) |
| TE | 44 Chad Martin (So., 1); 83 Dustin Guinn (So., 1) |
| QB | 3 Ty Houghtaling (So., 1); 13 Gregg Madsen (So., 1) |
| FB | 48 Gary Jessie (Sr., 3); 24 Brett Gentrup (Sr., 3) |
| HB | **32 Denvis Manns (Jr., 2)**; 31 Justin Vanley (Sr., 2) |
| WR | **10 Duane Gregory (Sr., 3)**; 21 Joe Hayward (Jr., 1) |
| K | **36 Brad Hopkins (So., 1)**; Andy Kohl (Fr., 0) |

### DEFENSE (3)

| | |
|---|---|
| DE | **56 Enrique Ramirez (Sr., 3)**; 59 Reginald Felder (Sr., 3) |
| DT | **92 DuShane Briggs (Sr., 2)**; 90 Jeremy Cline (Fr., 0) |
| DT | 94 Tim Engelhardt (So., 1); 96 Tye Fraembs (So., 1) |
| DE | 43 Jamon Johnson (Sr., 3); 68 Fabian Gallegos (Sr., 1) |
| LB | 49 Waylon Laters (So., 0); 46 Doug Johannsen (Sr., 3) |
| LB | 40 Sean L'Ecluse (Sr., 1); 41 Kendrie Nichols (Sr., 3) |
| LB | 19 Kareem Hart (Sr., 2); Mark Mitchell (Sr., 3) |
| CB | 42 Haran Jackson (Jr., 2); 27 Damon Turner (Sr., 2) |
| CB | 15 Demetric Norwood (So., 1); 1 Mantel Thomas (Jr., 1) |
| SS | **28 Jobe Lewis (Jr., 2)**; 29 Ryan Silva (So., 0) |
| FS | 16 Greg Bearman (Sr., 1); 26 Jeffery Thompson (Jr., 2) |
| P | 89 Germaine Harley (So., 1); 86 Nick Cecava (So., 0) |

*(#) Indicates number of returning starters* ***BOLD*** *indicates returning starters* *NUMBER after class indicates letters won*



Montana QB Brian Ah Yat

Todd Goodrich

# Herd Gone, Grizzlies in Hunt

*by* RICK BAILEY
*Lexington Herald-Leader*

Marshall University's Herd thundered into immortality in last year's finals as possibly the best team Division I-AA has ever seen with a 49–29 stampede of previously undefeated (14–0) defending champion Montana. Marshall finished 1996 with a 15–0 record and a fond farewell to its erstwhile playmates — the Thundering Herd joins Division I-A as a member of the Mid-American Conference effective this season. Montana may now reclaim the mantle of which it was so unceremoniously stripped that dark December day on Marshall's home turf.

## 1. Montana

It may be unfair to pick the Grizzlies to win their second Division I-AA title in three years. After all, 10 starters on defense, three interior offensive linemen and an All-America receiver (Joe Douglass) have departed.

But quarterback Brian Ah Yat returns for his junior season. In his first year at the helm he threw for 3,615 yards and 42 touchdowns in the regular season. "He made good decisions and was very poised," says coach Mick Dennehy, who guided the Griz to a 14–1 record in his Montana debut. "And Brian will get better."

Junior Josh Branen, a 1,000-yard rusher (including the playoffs) last year, leads a deep backfield featuring Montana's top four runners. Tackles Jason Baker (6–7, 325, senior) and Scott Curry (6–5, 275, junior) return on the offensive front.

"We may be more talented in our front seven (on defense), but we're just young," Dennehy says. Montana also must replace its secondary.

And the returnee on defense for the Grizzlies? All-America senior linebacker Jason Crebo.

## 2. William & Mary

Junior quarterback Mike Cook and senior tailback Alvin Porch made the last All-Yankee Conference team as the Tribe (10–3) reached the second round of the playoffs. Cook passed for more than 3,100 yards and 26 touchdowns, and Porch exceeded 1,200 yards on the ground.

Wide receiver Dave Conklin was the Yankee Conference Rookie of the Year. Any awards this fall will be from the Atlantic 10 Football Conference.

Senior guard Dan Rossettini (6–2, 295) and junior tackle Greg Whirley (6–1, 280) anchor the line.

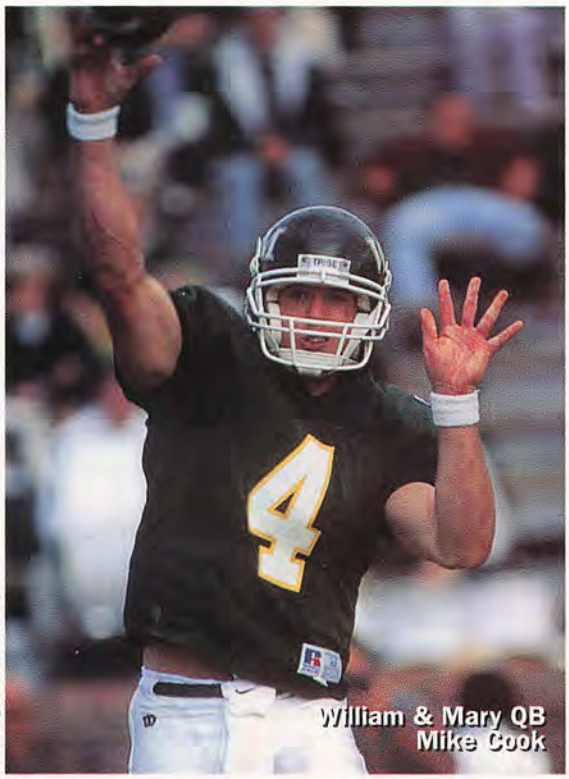
End Luke Cullinane (6–3, 240) and linebacker Jude Waddy, both seniors, will lead a veteran defense.

## 3. Troy State

The Trojans (12–2) won the Southland Football League title in their first year and reached the playoff semifinals.

Troy lost its quarterback (Stan Davis) and seven starters on defense, including the secondary.

Coach Larry Blakeney does return fullback Joe Jack-


The College of William & Mary

William & Mary QB Mike Cook

son, Troy's career touchdown leader. The offensive line also could be a strength, according to the coach.

The defensive front is solid, while nine Trojans are in the mix at linebacker.

"We signed a boatload of players," Blakeney says. "Some will have to play quickly."

## 4. Appalachian State

The Mountaineers dropped to 7–4 last fall and lost 22 seniors, including All-America linebacker Dexter Coakley.

Bake Baker took over at quarterback at midseason, and coach Jerry Moore says the senior is the best passer he's had.

Gerard Hardy, who was the quarterback, will use his speed and quickness at tailback.

Shawn Clark (6–5, 275, senior) is a two-time All-Southern Conference offensive tackle and the lone returnee up front. Cedrone Hodges (6–2, 274, junior) has crossed the line from defense, where the secondary is intact, and senior Jackie Avery (6–2, 255) returns on the line.

## 5. Youngstown State

The Gateway Conference opened its gates and let the Penguins in, and they are ready to compete.

"We made significant improvement last year (to 8–3)," coach Jim Tressel says, "and we're capable of having a very good team."

Youngstown returns significant numbers up front on both sides of the line. Veterans are not plentiful in the skill positions, but they have some experience.

Senior Demond Tidwell returns at quarterback, while sophomore Adrian Brown and junior Jake Andreadis share time at tailback. Senior tackles Todd Kollar (6–5, 300) and Matt Hogg (6–5, 305) anchor the line.

Senior lineman Harry Deligianis (6–5, 295) and senior linebacker Tom Paolucci star on defense.

## 6. Eastern Illinois

The Panthers (8–4) reached the playoffs in their first year in the Ohio Valley Conference, but they must rebuild both front lines if they are to make the 16-team field this fall.

"I feel we have competent replacements, but that might be wishful thinking," coach Bob Spoo says.

Mike Simpson, a "tough-minded guy" who successfully made the transition from Division III, according to Spoo, returns for his senior season at quarterback. Leading rusher Justin Lynch, a junior, also is back.

Senior Rodney Wilson leads a wealth of defensive returnees at linebacker, his position, and in the secondary.

## 7. Delaware

Sophomore Brian Ginn is the heir apparent at quarterback for the Blue Hens (8–4), but redshirt freshman Matt Nagy will challenge him. Junior fullback Andre Thompson returns.

The defense is loaded with veterans. "If we win," coach Tubby Raymond says, "we'll be riding on the coattails of our defense."

## 8. Northern Arizona

Seventeen starters return for the 9–3 Lumberjacks, even though Payton Award winner Archie Amerson has departed.

But quarterback Travis Brown had the best freshman season in NCAA history with 3,398 yards and 23 touchdown passes. Senior Ricky Pearsall and junior Gibbons St. Paul will be his primary receivers. Senior All-America Dan Finn (6–4, 305) plays anywhere on the offensive line.

## 9. Southern

Junior running back Steve Wofford was SWAC Newcomer of the Year, and punter Matt Bushhart was Freshman of the Year. Tailback Melvin Williams was Offensive Player of the Year in 1995 but didn't play last fall.

Linemen Robert Walker (6–2, 275, senior) and Joe Williams (6–6, 235, junior) defend for the 7–5 Jaguars.

## 10. McNeese State

The Cowboys lost 16 starters and went 3–8 last fall. Junior quarterback Tim Leger has a year of experience. All the receivers and tight end Chris Fontenot (6–3, 240) return.

The defense has improved, and coach Bobby Keasler expects help from some junior college transfers.

## 11. Furman

Eight starters return on defense for the 9–4 Paladins, led by linebackers Orlando Ruff (junior), Bernie Scott (senior) and Jay Thier (senior). Senior Chris Jonas and freshman Justin Hill will compete at quarterback. Senior Mark Moore returns at tailback.

## 12. Howard

MEAC player of the year Ted White, a junior, returns at quarterback. Senior MacArthur Johnson is one of his targets. Offensive linemen Lamar Young (6–5, 295, junior) and Fred Ray (6–3, 290, senior) and defensive tackle Marques Douglas (6–2, 265) are keys for the 10–2 Bison.

## 13. Stephen F. Austin

Sophomore Peyton Jones or freshman Travis Fallon will likely quarterback the Lumberjacks (7–4). Junior tailback Pat House is the top runner. Junior Jeremiah Trotter stands out at linebacker. Curtis James (6–1, 239, senior) and David Carmona (6–0, 275, senior) lead the defensive front.

## 14. Western Illinois

Senior Jeff Hecklinski will start his third year at quarterback for the 9–3 Leathernecks. Five candidates seek the tailback spot. Junior Ty Locatelli has the right temperament and personality at linebacker, according to coach Randy Ball.

## 15. Villanova

Senior running back Curtis Sifford last year became the Wildcats' first 1,000-yard rusher. Sophomore Chris Boden or freshman Chris Gicking will be the new quarterback. Senior receiver Brian Finneran was a second-team Associated Press All-American. The offensive line is the biggest question mark.

## 16. Jackson State

SWAC player of the year Grailyn Pratt is the senior quarterback who threw for 2,600 yards and 22 touchdowns last season. Senior Carlos Knight is the top runner. Senior tackle Toby Myles (6–6, 335) heads a veteran offensive line. Senior cornerback Quincy Coleman and senior linebacker Charles Crawford head the defense.

## 17. Eastern Kentucky

The Colonels missed the playoffs for only the third time in I-AA history. They have holes to fill and might give sophomore Scooter Asel, an All-OVC corner, a shot at quarterback. Senior Bobby Washington and junior Rondel Menendez are speedy receivers. Seniors Britt Bowen and Chris Guyton are other top defenders.

## 18. Northern Iowa

The Panthers won (or shared) their seventh straight Gateway championship. Thirteen starters return, but probable quarterback Jason Jones saw little action. The top two runners are gone, but the offensive line is mostly intact for new coach Mike Dunbar. Last year's four top tacklers have departed.

## 19. Chattanooga

Sixteen starters return for the Moccasins, including junior quarterback Brian Hampton (1,425 yards) and junior fullback Tyrone Coleman. Junior Stefpon Hawkins is the leading receiver back from a team of 49 freshmen and sophomores. Chattanooga is expected to improve on a disappointing 3–8 record.

## 20. Lafayette

The Leopards hope to get the Patriot League's first automatic playoff bid. Sophomore Mike Palos is expected to be the quarterback. Junior Leonard Moore is at tailback. Damian Wroblewski (6–2, 290, junior) is the center. Senior defensive captains are linebacker Dan Bengele (6–5, 265) and end Craig Hansen (6–4, 260). ■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| Gant, R. (R) | $ 89 |
| Gonzalez, Juan (C) | $129 |
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| Mathews, E. (R) | $119 |
| Mattingly, D. (R) | $169 |
| Mays, W. S.B. (A) | $129 |
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**U.D.A.**: Upper Deck Auth.
**S.B.**: Score Board
**M.M.**: Mounted Memories
**C.L.**: Club Level

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| Greene, Joe OFC | $149 |
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| Marino, D. U.D.A. OFC | $249 |
| Marino, D. U.D.A. Litho | $299 |
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| Smith, E. S.B. OFC | $225 |
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| Tarkenton, F. OFC | $169 |
| Unitas, J. W.P. | $149 |
| Young, S. S.B. OFC | $199 |

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## HELMETS

| | |
|---|---|
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| Bledsoe, D. S.B. | $349 |
| Brunell, M. C.L. | $299 |
| Favre, B. S.B. | $399 |
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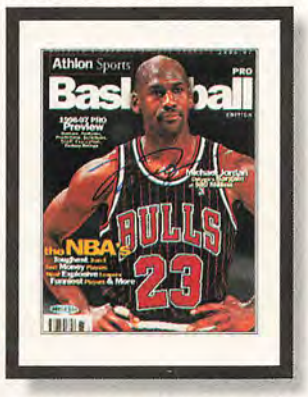


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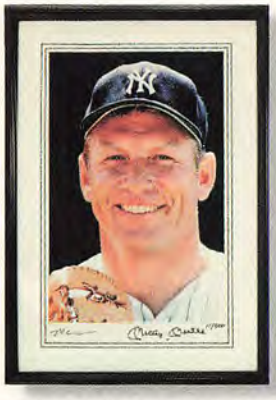

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## BASEBALLS & 8 x 10 PHOTOS

| | 8x10 | Baseball |
|---|---|---|
| Aaron, H. S.B. | $ 45 | $ 55 |
| Aparicio, L. | – | $ 32 |
| Avery, S. | $ 24 | $ 35 |
| Banks, E. | $ 29 | $ 45 |
| Bauer, H. | $ 19 | $ 29 |
| Belliard, R. | $ 9 | $ 29 |
| Bench, J. S.B. | $ 39 | $ 49 |
| Berra, Y. | $ 29 | $ 39 |
| Blauser, J. | $ 19 | $ 24 |
| Boggs, W. S.B. | $ 35 | $ 49 |
| Bonds, B. S.B. | $ 29 | $ 49 |
| Boyer, C. | – | $ 29 |
| Brett, G. | $ 39 | $ 55 |
| Brock, L. | $ 22 | $ 39 |
| Carlton, S. | $ 26 | $ 39 |
| Cepeda, O. | $ 24 | $ 32 |
| Dawson, A. | $ 25 | $ 39 |
| DiMaggio, J. | $110 | $239 |
| Drysdale, D. | – | $ 89 |
| Dye, Jermaine | $ 24 | $ 37 |
| Feller, B. | $ 19 | $ 25 |
| Fielder, C. | – | $ 45 |
| Ford, W. | $ 29 | $ 39 |
| Gehringer, C. | – | $150 |
| Gibson, B. | $ 25 | $ 39 |
| Glavine, T. | $ 35 | $ 45 |
| Gonzalez, J. | $ 29 | $ 45 |
| Gooden, D. S.B. | – | $ 29 |
| Grace, M. | $ 25 | $ 39 |
| Griffey, K. Jr. S.B. | $ 45 | $ 69 |

| | 8x10 | Baseball |
|---|---|---|
| Concepcion, D. | $ 19 | $ 35 |
| Conine, Jeff S.B. | – | $ 32 |
| Ferrell, Rick | $ 27 | $ 69 |
| Grissom, M. | $ 24 | $ 35 |
| Gwynn, Tony | $ 35 | $ 45 |
| Jackson, Bo S.B. | – | $ 45 |
| Jackson, Reggie | $ 35 | $ 49 |
| Jenkins, F. | $ 19 | $ 27 |
| Jones, Andruw | $ 39 | $ 55 |
| Jones, Chipper | $ 39 | $ 55 |
| Justice, D. | $ 29 | $ 45 |
| Kell, George | – | $ 29 |
| Killebrew, H. | $ 29 | $ 39 |
| Klesko, R. | $ 24 | $ 39 |
| Koufax, S. S.B. | $ 49 | $ 89 |
| Larsen, D. | $ 19 | $ 27 |
| Lopez, Javier | $ 24 | $ 39 |
| Maddux, G. S.B. | $ 49 | $ 79 |
| Mantle, M. | $ 99 | $229 |
| Marchial, J. | $ 25 | $ 35 |
| Mathews, E. | $ 29 | $ 39 |
| Mattingly, D. | $ 32 | $ 49 |
| Mays, W. S.B. | $ 45 | $ 55 |
| McCovey, W. | – | $ 39 |
| Mize, Johnny | $ 29 | $ 69 |
| Molitor, P. "3,000" C.L. | – | $ 69 |
| Morgan, J. | $ 22 | $ 35 |
| Murray, E. (C.L) | $ 49 | $ 69 |
| Murray, E. 500/3000 | $ – | $ 89 |
| Musial, S. | $ 35 | $ 49 |

| | 8x10 | Baseball |
|---|---|---|
| Niekro, P. | $ 22 | $ 39 |
| Perez, Tony | $ 25 | $ 32 |
| Perry, G. | $ 19 | $ 29 |
| Puckett, K. | – | $ 55 |
| Ramirez, Manny S.B. | – | $ 39 |
| Reese, P.W. | $ – | $ 69 |
| Richardson, B. | $ 15 | $ 29 |
| Ripken, C. S.B. | $ 49 | $ 79 |
| Ripken, C. "2131" or #8 | – | $119 |
| Ripken "2131"/Murray 500/3000 | | $189 |
| Robinson, B. | $ 22 | $ 35 |
| Robinson, F. | $ 28 | $ 39 |
| Rose, P. S.B. | $ 35 | $ 45 |
| Ryan, N. S.B. | $ 49 | $ 59 |
| Sandberg, R. | $ 45 | $ 55 |
| Schmidt, M. S.B. | $ 35 | $ 59 |
| Skowron, M. | $ 19 | $ 29 |
| Slaughter, E. | $ 19 | $ 29 |
| Sandberg, R. | $ 45 | $ 55 |
| Smith, Ozzie | $ 35 | $ 49 |
| Snider, D. S.B. | $ 29 | $ 45 |
| Spahn, W. | $ 25 | $ 37 |
| Stargell, W. | $ 22 | $ 29 |
| Thomas, F. S.B. | $ 45 | $ 69 |
| Vaughn, Mo S.B. | – | $ 49 |
| Wilhelm, Hoyt | $ 19 | $ 35 |
| Williams, Bernie, W.S. SB | – | $ 59 |
| Williams, Billy | $ 19 | $ 29 |
| Williams, Ted | $ 99 | $199 |
| Winfield, D. | – | $ 49 |

## FOOTBALL 8 x 10

| | |
|---|---|
| Abdul-Jabbar, Karim | $ 29 |
| Aikman, T. | $ 59 |
| Bates, Bill M.M. | $ 25 |
| Bettis, Jerome | $ 35 |
| Bledsoe, Drew | $ 59 |
| Bleier, Rocky | $ 25 |
| Boselli, Tony | $ 32 |
| Brown, J. M.M. | $ 39 |
| Brunell, Mark C.L. | $ 35 |
| Butkus, Dick | $ 32 |
| Campbell, Earl | $ 32 |
| Clark, Dwight | $ 29 |
| Collins, Kerry | $ 45 |
| Craig, Roger | $ 29 |
| Csonka, Larry M.M. | $ 32 |
| Davis, T. (Ga.)(Den) | $ 29 |
| Dawson, Len | $ 32 |
| Dorsett, Tony | $ 32 |
| Favre, Brett | $ 69 |
| George, Eddie | $ 35 |
| Graham, Otto | $ 21 |
| Greene, Joe | $ 29 |
| Griese, B. U.D.A. | $ 39 |
| Haley, Charles M.M. | $ 29 |
| Hornung, P. | $ 24 |
| Marino, D. U.D.A. | $ 69 |
| Montana, J. (S.F. or N.D.) | $ 59 |
| Namath, J. (Jets or Ala.) | $ 59 |
| Nitschke, Ray | $ 24 |
| Sayers, Gayle | $ 29 |
| Shuler, Heath | $ 29 |
| Simpson, O.J. | $ 59 |
| Smith, Emmitt | $ 59 |

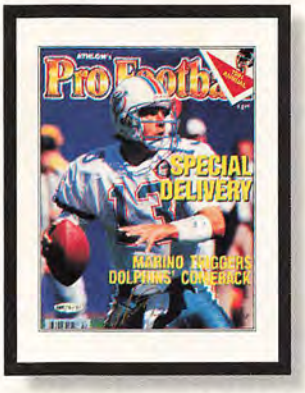
## FOOTBALL 8 x 10

| | |
|---|---|
| Staubach, Roger | $ 59 |
| Tarkenton, F. M.M. | $ 45 |
| Tittle, Y.A. | $ 29 |
| Unitas, Johnny | $ 45 |
| Youngblood, Jack | $ 35 |

Call for other players & 16x20's

## BASKETBALL 8 x 10

| | |
|---|---|
| Allen, R. (UConn)(Mil.) | $ 29 |
| Archibald, N. | $ 22 |
| Bird, Larry | $ 59 |
| Erving, J. | $ 45 |
| Frazier, Walt | $ 29 |
| Garnett, K. | $ 35 |
| Hardaway, A. U.D.A. | $ 65 |
| Iverson, A. (Pro or NCAA) | $ 39 |
| Jordan, M. U.D.A. (F) | $299 |
| Kittles, K. (Vill.)(Nets) | $ 29 |
| Marbury, S. (Minn. or Ga. Tech) | $ 35 |
| Mercer, Ron (Ky) | $ 29 |
| Monroe, Earl | $ 29 |
| Pippen, Scottie | $ 49 |
| Rodman, D. | $ 49 |
| Stackhouse, J. (UNC) | $ 39 |
| Stackhouse, J. (76ers) | $ 39 |
| Thomas, K. (TCU) | $ 22 |
| Walton, Bill | $ 25 |
| Walker, A. (KY)(Celtics) | $ 29 |
| Wallace, R. (UNC) | $ 25 |
| Williamson, C. (Ark.) | $ 22 |
| Wright, L. (Memphis) | $ 25 |

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## ACC

### CLEMSON
CLEMSON S.C.
(7–5)
S. 6 APPALACHIAN ST.*
S.13 N.C. STATE
S.20 FLORIDA STATE*
S.27 GEORGIA TECH
O. 4 TEXAS-EL PASO*
O.11 VIRGINIA*
O. 25 MARYLAND
N. 1 WAKE FOREST
N. 8 DUKE*
N.15 NORTH CAROLINA*
N.22 SOUTH CAROLINA

### DUKE
DURHAM, N.C.
(0–11)
S. 6 N.C. STATE*
S.13 NORTHWESTERN
S.20 ARMY*
S.27 NAVY*
O. 4 MARYLAND
O.11 FLORIDA STATE*
O.18 VIRGINIA
O.25 WAKE FOREST*
N. 8 CLEMSON
N.15 GEORGIA TECH*
N.22 NORTH CAROLINA

### FLORIDA STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLA.
(11–1)
S. 6 SOUTHERN CAL
S.13 MARYLAND*
S.20 CLEMSON
O. 4 MIAMI*
O.11 DUKE
O.18 GEORGIA TECH*
O.25 VIRGINIA
N. 1 N.C. STATE*
N. 8 NORTH CAROLINA
N.15 WAKE FOREST*
N.22 FLORIDA

### GEORGIA TECH
ATLANTA, GA.
(5–6)
S. 6 NOTRE DAME
S.20 WAKE FOREST
S.27 CLEMSON*
O. 4 BOSTON COLLEGE
O.11 N.C. STATE*
O.18 FLORIDA STATE
O.30 NORTH CAROLINA*
N. 8 VIRGINIA
N.15 DUKE
N.22 MARYLAND*
N.29 GEORGIA*

### MARYLAND
COLLEGE PARK, MD.
(5–6)
S. 6 OHIO*
S.13 FLORIDA STATE
S.20 NORTH CAROLINA*
S.27 TEMPLE
O. 4 DUKE*
O.11 WEST VIRGINIA*
O.18 WAKE FOREST
O.25 CLEMSON*
N. 1 VIRGINIA*
N. 8 N.C. STATE
N.22 GEORGIA TECH

### NORTH CAROLINA
CHAPEL HILL, N.C.
(10–2)
S. 6 INDIANA*
S.13 STANFORD*
S.20 MARYLAND
S.27 VIRGINIA*
O. 4 TEXAS CHRISTIAN
O.11 WAKE FOREST*
O.18 N.C. STATE
O.30 GEORGIA TECH
N. 8 FLORIDA STATE*
N.15 CLEMSON
N.22 DUKE*

### N.C. STATE
RALEIGH, N.C.
(3–8)
A.30 SYRACUSE
S. 6 DUKE
S.13 CLEMSON*
S.20 N. ILLINOIS*
S.27 WAKE FOREST
O.11 GEORGIA TECH
O.18 NORTH CAROLINA*
N. 1 FLORIDA STATE
N. 8 MARYLAND*
N.15 VIRGINIA*
N.22 EAST CAROLINA*

### VIRGINIA
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA.
(7–5)
S. 4 AUBURN*
S.13 RICHMOND*
S.27 NORTH CAROLINA
O. 4 WAKE FOREST*
O.11 CLEMSON
O.18 DUKE*
O.25 FLORIDA STATE*
N. 1 MARYLAND
N. 8 GEORGIA TECH*
N.15 N.C. STATE
N.29 VIRGINIA TECH*

### WAKE FOREST
WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.
(3–8)
S. 6 NORTHWESTERN*
S.13 EAST CAROLINA
S.20 GEORGIA TECH*
S.27 N.C. STATE*
O. 4 VIRGINIA
O.11 NORTH CAROLINA
O.18 MARYLAND*
O.25 DUKE
N. 1 CLEMSON*
N. 8 RUTGERS
N.15 FLORIDA STATE

## BIG EAST

### BOSTON COLLEGE
CHESTNUT HILL, MASS.
(5–7)
S. 6 TEMPLE
S.13 WEST VIRGINIA*
S.20 RUTGERS
S.27 CINCINNATI*
O. 4 GEORGIA TECH*
O.11 VIRGINIA TECH
O.18 MIAMI*
O.25 NOTRE DAME
N. 1 PITTSBURGH*
N. 8 SYRACUSE
N.22 ARMY*

### MIAMI
CORAL GABLES, FLA.
(9–3)
A.30 BAYLOR
S.13 ARIZONA STATE*
S.18 PITTSBURGH
S.27 WEST VIRGINIA*
O. 4 FLORIDA STATE
O.18 BOSTON COLLEGE
O.25 TEMPLE*
N. 1 ARKANSAS ST.*
N. 8 VIRGINIA TECH
N.15 RUTGERS*
N.29 SYRACUSE*

### PITTSBURGH
PITTSBURGH, PA.
(4–7)
A.30 SW LOUISIANA*
S. 6 PENN STATE
S.13 HOUSTON
S.18 MIAMI*
O. 4 TEMPLE
O.11 NOTRE DAME*
O.25 RUTGERS
N. 1 BOSTON COLLEGE
N.15 SYRACUSE*
N.22 VIRGINIA TECH*
N.28 WEST VIRGINIA

### RUTGERS
NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J.
(2–9)
A.30 VIRGINIA TECH*
S. 6 TEXAS
S.13 NAVY
S.20 BOSTON COLLEGE*
O. 4 WEST VIRGINIA
O. 9 SYRACUSE*
O.18 ARMY
O.25 PITTSBURGH*
N. 1 TEMPLE
N. 8 WAKE FOREST*
N.15 MIAMI

### SYRACUSE
SYRACUSE, N.Y.
(9–3)
A.24 WISCONSIN@
A.30 N.C. STATE*
S. 6 OKLAHOMA
S.13 VIRGINIA TECH
S.20 TULANE*
O. 4 EAST CAROLINA*
O. 9 RUTGERS
O.18 TEMPLE*
N. 1 WEST VIRGINIA*
N. 8 BOSTON COLLEGE*
N.15 PITTSBURGH
N.29 MIAMI
@ KICKOFF CLASSIC
GIANTS STADIUM

### TEMPLE
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
(1–10)
A.28 W. MICHIGAN
S. 6 BOSTON COLLEGE*
S.13 PENN STATE
S.20 VIRGINIA TECH*
S.27 MARYLAND*
O. 4 PITTSBURGH*
O.18 SYRACUSE
O.25 MIAMI
N. 1 RUTGERS*
N. 8 NAVY
N.15 WEST VIRGINIA

### VIRGINIA TECH
BLACKSBURG, VA.
(10–2)
A.30 RUTGERS
S.13 SYRACUSE*
S.20 TEMPLE
S.27 ARKANSAS ST.*
O. 4 MIAMI (OH)*
O.11 BOSTON COLLEGE*
O.25 WEST VIRGINIA
N. 1 UAB*
N. 8 MIAMI (FL)*
N.22 PITTSBURGH
N.29 VIRGINIA

### WEST VIRGINIA
MORGANTOWN, W.VA.
(8–4)
A.30 MARSHALL*
S. 6 EAST CAROLINA*
S.13 BOSTON COLLEGE
S.27 MIAMI
O. 4 RUTGERS*
O.11 MARYLAND
O.25 VIRGINIA TECH*
N. 1 SYRACUSE
N.15 TEMPLE*
N.22 NOTRE DAME
N.28 PITTSBURGH*

## BIG TEN

### ILLINOIS
CHAMPAIGN, ILL.
(2–9)
S. 6 SOUTHERN MISS*
S.13 LOUISVILLE
S.20 WASHINGTON ST.*
S.27 IOWA
O. 4 PENN STATE*
O.11 WISCONSIN
O.25 PURDUE*
N. 1 INDIANA
N. 8 NORTHWESTERN*
N.15 OHIO STATE
N.22 MICHIGAN ST.*

### INDIANA
BLOOMINGTON, IND.
(3–8)
S. 6 NORTH CAROLINA
S.13 BALL STATE*
S.20 KENTUCKY*
S.27 WISCONSIN
O. 4 MICHIGAN*
O.11 MICHIGAN ST.*
O.18 OHIO STATE
O.25 IOWA
N. 1 ILLINOIS*
N.15 MINNESOTA
N.22 PURDUE*

### IOWA
IOWA CITY, IOWA
(9–3)
S. 6 NORTHERN IOWA*
S.13 TULSA*
S.20 IOWA STATE
S.27 ILLINOIS*
O. 4 OHIO STATE
O.18 MICHIGAN
O.25 INDIANA*
N. 1 PURDUE*
N. 8 WISCONSIN
N.15 NORTHWESTERN
N.22 MINNESOTA*

### MICHIGAN
ANN ARBOR, MICH.
(8–4)
S.13 COLORADO*
S.20 BAYLOR*
S.27 NOTRE DAME*
O. 4 INDIANA
O.11 NORTHWESTERN*
O.18 IOWA*
O.25 MICHIGAN ST.
N. 1 MINNESOTA*
N. 8 PENN STATE
N.15 WISCONSIN
N.22 OHIO STATE*

### MICHIGAN STATE
EAST LANSING, MICH.
(6–6)
S. 6 WESTERN MICHIGAN*
S.13 MEMPHIS*
S.20 NOTRE DAME
O. 4 MINNESOTA*
O.11 INDIANA
O.18 NORTHWESTERN
O.25 MICHIGAN*
N. 1 OHIO STATE*
N. 8 PURDUE
N.22 ILLINOIS
N.29 PENN STATE*

### MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
(4–7)
A.30 HAWAII
S.13 IOWA STATE*
S.20 MEMPHIS
S.27 HOUSTON*
O. 4 MICHIGAN ST.
O.11 PURDUE*
O.18 PENN STATE
O.25 WISCONSIN*
N. 1 MICHIGAN
N. 8 OHIO STATE*
N.15 INDIANA*
N.22 IOWA

### NORTHWESTERN
EVANSTON, ILL.
(9–3)
S. 6 WAKE FOREST
S.13 DUKE*
S.20 RICE*
S.27 PURDUE
O. 4 WISCONSIN*
O.11 MICHIGAN
O.18 MICHIGAN ST.*
O.25 OHIO STATE
N. 1 PENN STATE*
N. 8 ILLINOIS
N.15 IOWA*

### OHIO STATE
COLUMBUS, OHIO
(11–1)
A.28 WYOMING*
S.13 BOWLING GREEN*
S.20 ARIZONA*
S.27 MISSOURI
O. 4 IOWA*
O.11 PENN STATE
O.18 INDIANA*
O.25 NORTHWESTERN*
N. 1 MICHIGAN ST.
N. 8 MINNESOTA
N.15 ILLINOIS*
N.22 MICHIGAN

### PENN STATE
UNIVERSITY PARK, PA.
(11–2)
S. 6 PITTSBURGH*
S.13 TEMPLE*
S.20 LOUISVILLE
O. 4 ILLINOIS
O.11 OHIO STATE*
O.18 MINNESOTA*
N. 1 NORTHWESTERN
N. 8 MICHIGAN*
N.15 PURDUE
N.22 WISCONSIN*
N.29 MICHIGAN ST.

### PURDUE
WEST LAFAYETTE, IND.
(3–8)
S. 6 TOLEDO
S.13 NOTRE DAME*
S.20 BALL STATE*
S.27 NORTHWESTERN*
O.11 MINNESOTA
O.18 WISCONSIN*
O.25 ILLINOIS
N. 1 IOWA
N. 8 MICHIGAN ST.*
N.15 PENN STATE*
N.22 INDIANA

### WISCONSIN
MADISON, WIS.
(7–5)
A.24 SYRACUSE@
S. 6 BOISE STATE*
S.13 SAN JOSE ST.
S.20 SAN DIEGO ST.*
S.27 INDIANA*
O. 4 NORTHWESTERN
O.11 ILLINOIS*
O.18 PURDUE
O.25 MINNESOTA
N. 8 IOWA*
N.15 MICHIGAN*
N.22 PENN SATE
@ KICKOFF CLASSIC
GIANTS STADIUM

## BIG TWELVE

### BAYLOR
WACO, TEXAS
(4–7)
A 30 MIAMI*
S. 6 FRESNO STATE
S.20 MICHIGAN
O. 4 TEXAS TECH*
O.11 NEBRASKA*
O.18 OKLAHOMA
O.25 IOWA STATE
N. 1 TEXAS*
N. 8 TEXAS A&M
N.15 MISSOURI
N.22 OKLAHOMA STATE*

### COLORADO
BOULDER, COLO.
(10–2)
S. 6 COLORADO ST.*
S.13 MICHIGAN
S.27 WYOMING*
O. 4 TEXAS A&M*
O.11 OKLAHOMA ST.
O.18 KANSAS*
O.25 TEXAS
N. 1 MISSOURI*
N. 8 IOWA STATE
N.15 KANSAS STATE
N.28 NEBRASKA*

### IOWA STATE
AMES, IOWA
(2–9)
A.30 OKLAHOMA ST.*
S. 6 WYOMING
S.13 MINNESOTA
S.20 IOWA*
O. 4 MISSOURi
O.11 TEXAS A&M
O.25 BAYLOR*
N. 1 KANSAS
N. 8 COLORADO*
N.15 NEBRASKA
N.22 KANSAS STATE*

### KANSAS
LAWRENCE, KAN.
(4–7)
A.28 UAB*
S. 6 TCU*
S.13 MISSOURI*
S.20 CINCINNATI
O. 4 OKLAHOMA*
O.11 TEXAS TECH
O.18 COLORADO
O.25 NEBRASKA*
N. 1 IOWA STATE*
N. 8 KANSAS STATE
N.15 TEXAS

### KANSAS STATE
MANHATTAN, KAN.
(9–3)
S. 6 N. ILLINOIS
S.13 OHIO*
S.27 BOWLING GREEN*
O. 4 NEBRASKA
O.11 MISSOURI*
O.18 TEXAS A&M*
O.25 OKLAHOMA
N. 1 TEXAS TECH
N. 8 KANSAS*
N.15 COLORADO*
N.22 IOWA STATE

### MISSOURI
COLUMBIA, MO.
(5–6)
S. 6 E. MICHIGAN*
S. 13 KANSAS
S.20 TULSA
S.27 OHIO STATE*
O. 4 IOWA STATE*
O.11 KANSAS STATE
O.18 TEXAS*
O.25 OKLAHOMA ST.
N. 1 COLORADO
N. 8 NEBRASKA*
N.15 BAYLOR*

### NEBRASKA
LINCOLN, NEB.
(11–2)
A.30 AKRON*
S.13 CENTRAL FLORIDA*
S.20 WASHINGTON
O. 4 KANSAS STATE*
O.11 BAYLOR
O.18 TEXAS TECH*
O.25 KANSAS
N. 1 OKLAHOMA*
N. 8 MISSOURI
N.15 IOWA STATE*
N.28 COLORADO

### OKLAHOMA
NORMAN, OKLA.
(3–8)
S. 6 SYRACUSE*
S.20 CALIFORNIA
S.27 LOUISVILLE*
O. 4 KANSAS
O.11 TEXAS@
O.18 BAYLOR*
O.25 KANSAS STATE*
N. 1 NEBRASKA
N. 8 OKLAHOMA STATE*
N.15 TEXAS A&M*
N.22 TEXAS TECH
@DALLAS, TEXAS

### OKLAHOMA STATE
STILLWATER, OKLA.
(5–6)
A.30 IOWA STATE
S. 6 SW LOUISIANA
S.13 FRESNO STATE*
S.27 NE LOUISIANA*
O. 4 TEXAS*
O.11 COLORADO*
O.25 MISSOURI*
N. 1 TEXAS A&M
N. 8 OKLAHOMA
N.15 TEXAS TECH*
N.22 BAYLOR

### TEXAS
AUSTIN, TEXAS
(8–5)
S. 6 RUTGERS*
S.13 UCLA*
S.27 RICE
O. 4 OKLAHOMA STATE
O.11 OKLAHOMA@
O.18 MISSOURI
O.25 COLORADO*
N. 1 BAYLOR
N. 8 TEXAS TECH*
N.15 KANSAS*
N.28 TEXAS A&M
@DALLAS, TEXAS

### TEXAS A&M
COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS
(6–6)
S. 6 SAM HOUSTON*
S.20 SW LOUISIANA*
S.27 NORTH TEXAS@
O. 4 COLORADO
O.11 IOWA STATE*
O.18 KANSAS STATE
O.25 TEXAS TECH
N. 1 OKLAHOMA ST.*
N. 8 BAYLOR*
N.15 OKLAHOMA
N.28 TEXAS*
@ IRVING, TEXAS

### TEXAS TECH
LUBBOCK, TEXAS
(7–5)
A.30 TENNESSEE
S.13 SW LOUISIANA*
S.20 NORTH TEXAS*
O. 4 BAYLOR
O.11 KANSAS*
O.18 NEBRASKA
O.25 TEXAS A&M*
N. 1 KANSAS STATE*
N. 8 TEXAS
N.15 OKLAHOMA STATE
N.22 OKLAHOMA*

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# 1997 college schedules

*** Home game**

## BIG WEST

### BOISE STATE
BOISE, IDAHO
(2–10)
A. 30 CAL ST. NORTH*
S. 6 WISCONSIN
S.13 C. MICHIGAN
S.20 WEBER STATE*
S.27 WASHINGTON ST.
0.18 NORTH TEXAS
0.25 LOUISIANA TECH*
N. 1 UTAH STATE
N. 8 NEVADA*
N.15 NEW MEXICO ST.*
N.22 IDAHO

### IDAHO
MOSCOW, IDAHO
(6–5)
A.30 AIR FORCE
S. 6 PORTLAND ST.*
S.13 NEW MEXICO ST.
S.20 C. FLORIDA
0. 4 NORTH TEXAS*
0.11 UC-DAVIS*
0.18 NEVADA
0.25 UTAH STATE*
N. 1 E. WASHINGTON
N.22 BOISE STATE*

### NEVADA
RENO, NEV.
(9–3)
A.30 COLORADO ST.
S. 6 UNLV*
S.13 OREGON*
S.20 SOUTHERN MISS
S.27 TOLEDO
0.11 WYOMING*
0.18 IDAHO*
0.25 NORTH TEXAS*
N. 1 NEW MEXICO ST.
N. 8 BOISE STATE
N.15 UTAH STATE*

### NEW MEXICO ST.
LAS CRUCES, N.M.
(1–10)
A. 30 ARIZONA STATE
S. 6 NEW MEXICO
S.13 ARKANSAS ST.*
S.20 CAL ST. NORTH*
S.27 TEXAS-EL PASO
0. 4 CAL POLY SLO*
0.18 UTAH STATE
0.25 IDAHO*
N. 1 NEVADA*
N. 8 NORTH TEXAS*
N.15 BOISE STATE

### NORTH TEXAS
DENTON, TEXAS
(5–6)
A. 30 VANDERBILT
S. 6 OREGON STATE
S.13 INDIANA STATE*
S.20 TEXAS TECH
S.27 TEXAS A&M@
0. 4 IDAHO
0.18 BOISE STATE
0.25 NEVADA
N. 8 NEW MEXICO ST.
N.15 ARMY
N.22 UTAH STATE*
@IRVING, TEXAS

### UTAH STATE
LOGAN, UTAH
(6–5)
A. 30 UTAH
S. 6 IDAHO STATE*
S.13 COLORADO ST.*
S.20 NEW MEXICO*
0. 3 BYU
0.11 OREGON STATE
0.18 NEW MEXICO ST.*
0.25 IDAHO
N. 1 BOISE STATE*
N.15 NEVADA
N.22 NORTH TEXAS

## CONFERENCE USA

### CINCINNATI
CINCINNATI, OHIO
(6–5)
A. 28 TULSA*
S. 6 TULANE
S.20 KANSAS*
S.27 BOSTON COLLEGE
0. 4 MEMPHIS*
0.11 UAB*
0.18 HOUSTON
0.25 MIAMI (OH)
N. 1 SOUTHERN MISS*
N. 8 LOUISVILLE*
N.15 EAST CAROLINA

### EAST CAROLINA
GREENVILLE, N.C.
(8–3)
S. 6 WEST VIRGINIA
S.13 WAKE FOREST*
S.20 SOUTH CAROLINA*
0. 4 SYRACUSE
0.11 SOUTHERN MISS*
0.18 TULANE
0.25 MEMPHIS*
N. 1 LOUISVILLE
N. 8 HOUSTON
N.15 CINCINNATI*
N.22 N.C. STATE

### HOUSTON
HOUSTON, TEXAS
(7–5)
A. 30 ALABAMA
S. 6 CALIFORNIA*
S.13 PITTSBURGH*
S.27 MINNESOTA
0. 4 UCLA
0.18 CINCINNATI*
0.25 LOUISVILLE
N. 1 MEMPHIS
N. 8 EAST CAROLINA*
N.15 SOUTHERN MISS
N.22 TULANE*

### LOUISVILLE
LOUISVILLE, KY.
(5–6)
A. 30 KENTUCKY
S. 6 UTAH*
S.13 ILLINOIS*
S.20 PENN STATE*
S.27 OKLAHOMA
0. 4 SOUTHERN MISS
0.11 TULANE*
0.25 HOUSTON*
N. 1 EAST CAROLINA*
N. 8 CINCINNATI
N.15 MEMPHIS

### MEMPHIS
MEMPHIS, TENN.
(4–7)
A. 30 MISSISSIPPI ST.
S. 6 UAB*
S.13 MICHIGAN ST.
S.20 MINNESOTA*
0. 4 CINCINNATI
0.11 ARKANSAS ST.*
0.25 EAST CAROLINA
N. 1 HOUSTON*
N. 8 TULANE
N.15 LOUISVILLE*
N.22 SOUTHERN MISS*

### SOUTHERN MISS
HATTIESBURG, MISS.
(8–3)
A. 30 FLORIDA
S. 6 ILLINOIS
S.20 NEVADA*
S.27 ALABAMA
0. 4 LOUISVILLE*
0.11 EAST CAROLINA
0.25 TULANE*
N. 1 CINCINNATI
N. 8 TENNESSEE
N.15 HOUSTON*
N.22 MEMPHIS

### TULANE
NEW ORLEANS, LA
(2–9)
S. 6 CINCINNATI*
S.13 RICE*
S.20 SYRACUSE
0. 4 ARMY*
0.11 LOUISVILLE
0.18 EAST CAROLINA*
0.25 SOUTHERN MISS
N. 1 SOUTHWESTERN LA.
N. 8 MEMPHIS*
N.15 MISSISSIPPI*
N.22 HOUSTON

## MID-AMERICAN

### AKRON
AKRON, OHIO
(4–7)
A. 30 NEBRASKA
S.13 MIAMI (OH)
S.20 BOWLING GREEN*
S.27 LOUISIANA STATE
0. 4 C. MICHIGAN*
0.11 MARSHALL
0.18 E. MICHIGAN
0.25 OHIO*
N. 1 BALL STATE
N. 8 KENT*
N.15 TOLEDO

### BALL STATE
MUNCIE, IND.
(8–4)
A.30 MIAMI (OH)
S. 6 JAMES MADISON*
S.13 INDIANA
S.20 PURDUE
S.27 MARSHALL*
0. 4 W. MICHIGAN
0.11 E. MICHIGAN
0.18 C. MICHIGAN*
0.25 N. ILLINOIS
N. 1 AKRON*
N. 8 TOLEDO*

### BOWLING GREEN
BOWLING GREEN, OHIO
(4–7)
A. 30 LOUISIANA TECH
S. 6 MIAMI (OH)*
S.13 OHIO STATE
S.20 AKRON
S.27 KANSAS STATE
0. 4 N. ILLINOIS*
0.11 W. MICHIGAN*
0.18 OHIO
0.25 TOLEDO*
N. 1 KENT
N. 8 MARSHALL

### CENTRAL MICHIGAN
MT. PLEASANT, MICH.
(5–6)
A.28 N. ILLINOIS*
S. 6 FLORIDA
S.13 BOISE STATE*
S.20 LOUISIANA TECH
S.27 E. MICHIGAN*
0. 4 AKRON
0.11 TOLEDO*
0.18 BALL STATE
0.25 KENT
N. 1 MARSHALL*
N. 8 W. MICHIGAN

### EASTERN MICHIGAN
YPSILANTI, MICH.
(3–8)
S. 6 MISSOURI
S.13 TOLEDO
S.20 KENT*
S.27 C. MICHIGAN
0. 4 OHIO*
0.11 BALL STATE*
0.18 AKRON*
0.25 MARSHALL
N. 1 W. MICHIGAN*
N. 8 N. ILLINOIS
N.15 C. FLORIDA

### KENT
KENT, OHIO
(2–9)
A.28 OHIO
S. 6 YOUNGSTOWN ST.
S.13 MARSHALL*
S.20 E. MICHIGAN
0. 4 C. FLORIDA*
0.11 MIAMI (OH)*
0.18 W. MICHIGAN
0.25 C. MICHIGAN*
N. 1 BOWLING GREEN*
N. 8 AKRON
N.22 NAVY

### MARSHALL
HUNTINGTON, W.VA.
(15–0)
A. 30 WEST VIRGINIA
S. 6 ARMY
S.13 KENT
S.20 W. ILLINOIS*
S.27 BALL STATE
0.11 AKRON*
0.18 MIAMI (OH)
0.25 E. MICHIGAN*
N. 1 C. MICHIGAN
N. 8 BOWLING GREEN*
N.15 OHIO*

### MIAMI
OXFORD, OHIO
(6–5)
A. 30 BALL STATE*
S. 6 BOWLING GREEN
S.13 AKRON*
S.27 ARMY
0. 4 VIRGINIA TECH
0.11 KENT
0.18 MARSHALL*
0.25 CINCINNATI*
N. 1 TOLEDO
N. 8 OHIO
N.15 N. ILLINOIS*
*

### NO. ILLINOIS
DEKALB, ILL.
(1–10)
A. 28 CENTRAL MICHIGAN
S. 6 KANSAS STATE*
S.13 W. MICHIGAN*
S.20 N.C. STATE
0. 4 BOWLING GREEN
0.11 VANDERBILT*
0.18 TOLEDO
0.25 BALL STATE*
N. 1 OHIO*
N. 8 E. MICHIGAN*
N.15 MIAMI (OH)

### OHIO
ATHENS, OHIO
(6–6)
A. 30 KENT*
S. 6 MARYLAND
S.13 KANSAS STATE
S.20 BUFFALO*
S.27 W. MICHIGAN*
0. 4 E. MICHIGAN
0.18 BOWLING GREEN*
0.25 AKRON
N. 1 N. ILLINOIS
N. 8 MIAMI (OH)*
N.15 MARSHALL

### TOLEDO
TOLEDO, OHIO
(7–4)
S. 6 PURDUE*
S.13 E. MICHIGAN*
S.20 W. MICHIGAN
S.27 NEVADA*
0.11 C. MICHIGAN
0.18 N. ILLINOIS*
0.25 BOWLING GREEN
N. 1 MIAMI (OH)*
N. 8 BALL STATE
N.15 AKRON*
N.22 C. FLORIDA

### WESTERN MICHIGAN
KALAMAZOO, MICH.
(2–9)
A. 28 TEMPLE*
S. 6 MICHIGAN ST.
S.13 N. ILLINOIS
S.20 TOLEDO*
S.27 OHIO
0. 4 BALL STATE*
0.11 BOWLING GREEN
0.18 KENT*
N. 1 E. MICHIGAN
N. 8 C. MICHIGAN*
N.15 NE LOUISIANA

## PAC TEN

### ARIZONA
TUCSON, ARIZ.
(5–6)
S. 4 OREGON
S.13 UAB*
S.20 OHIO STATE
S.27 UCLA
0. 4 SAN DIEGO ST.*
0.11 STANFORD*
0.18 WASHINGTON*
0.25 WASHINGTON ST.
N. 8 OREGON ST.*
N.15 CALIFORNIA*
N.28 ARIZONA ST.

### ARIZONA STATE
TEMPE, ARIZ.
(11–1)
A.30 NEW MEXICO STATE*
S.13 MIAMI
S.20 BYU*
S.27 OREGON STATE
0. 4 WASHINGTON
0.11 USC*
0.18 STANFORD
N. 1 WASHINGTON STATE*
N. 8 CALIFORNIA
N.15 OREGON*
N.28 ARIZONA*

### CALIFORNIA
BERKELEY, CALIF.
(6–6)
S. 6 HOUSTON
S.20 OKLAHOMA*
S.27 USC*
0. 4 LOUISIANA TECH
0.11 WASHINGTON*
0.18 WASHINGTON ST.
0.25 UCLA
N. 1 OREGON STATE*
N. 8 ARIZONA STATE*
N.15 ARIZONA
N.22 STANFORD

### OREGON
EUGENE, ORE.
(6–5)
S. 4 ARIZONA*
S.13 NEVADA
S.20 FRESNO STATE*
S.27 STANFORD
0. 4 WASHINGTON ST.*
0.11 UCLA*
0.18 UTAH*
0.25 USC
N. 8 WASHINGTON
N.15 ARIZONA ST.
N.22 OREGON ST.*

### OREGON STATE
CORVALLIS, ORE.
(2–9)
S. 6 NORTH TEXAS*
S.20 STANFORD*
S.27 ARIZONA STATE*
0. 4 SAN JOSE STATE*
0.11 UTAH STATE*
0.18 UCLA
0.25 WASHINGTON*
N. 1 CALIFORNIA
N. 8 ARIZONA
N.15 USC*
N.22 OREGON

### SOUTHERN CAL
LOS ANGELES, CALIF.
(6–6)
S. 6 FLORIDA STATE*
S.13 WASHINGTON ST.*
S.27 CALIFORNIA
0. 4 UNLV*
0.11 ARIZONA STATE
0.18 NOTRE DAME
0.25 OREGON*
N. 1 WASHINGTON
N. 8 STANFORD*
N.15 OREGON STATE
N.22 UCLA*

### STANFORD
STANFORD, CALIF.
(7–5)
S. 6 SAN JOSE ST.*
S.13 NORTH CAROLINA
S.20 OREGON ST.
S.27 OREGON*
0. 4 NOTRE DAME*
0.11 ARIZONA
0.18 ARIZONA ST.*
N. 1 UCLA*
N. 8 USC
N.15 WASHINGTON ST.
N.22 CALIFORNIA*

### UCLA
LOS ANGELES, CALIF.
(5–6)
A. 30 WASHINGTON ST.
S. 6 TENNESSEE*
S.13 TEXAS
S.27 ARIZONA*
0. 4 HOUSTON*
0.11 OREGON
0.18 OREGON STATE*
0.25 CALIFORNIA*
N. 1 STANFORD
N.15 WASHINGTON*
N.22 USC

### WASHINGTON
SEATTLE, WASH.
(9–3)
S. 6 BYU
S.13 SAN DIEGO STATE*
S.20 NEBRASKA*
0. 4 ARIZONA STATE*
0.11 CALIFORNIA
0.18 ARIZONA
0.25 OREGON STATE
N. 1 USC*
N. 8 OREGON*
N.15 UCLA
N.22 WASHINGTON ST.*

### WASHINGTON STATE
PULLMAN, WASH.
(5–6)
A. 30 UCLA*
S.13 USC
S.20 ILLINOIS
S.27 BOISE STATE*
0. 4 OREGON
0.11 SW LOUISIANA*
0.18 CALIFORNIA*
0.25 ARIZONA*
N. 1 ARIZONA ST.
N.15 STANFORD*
N.22 WASHINGTON

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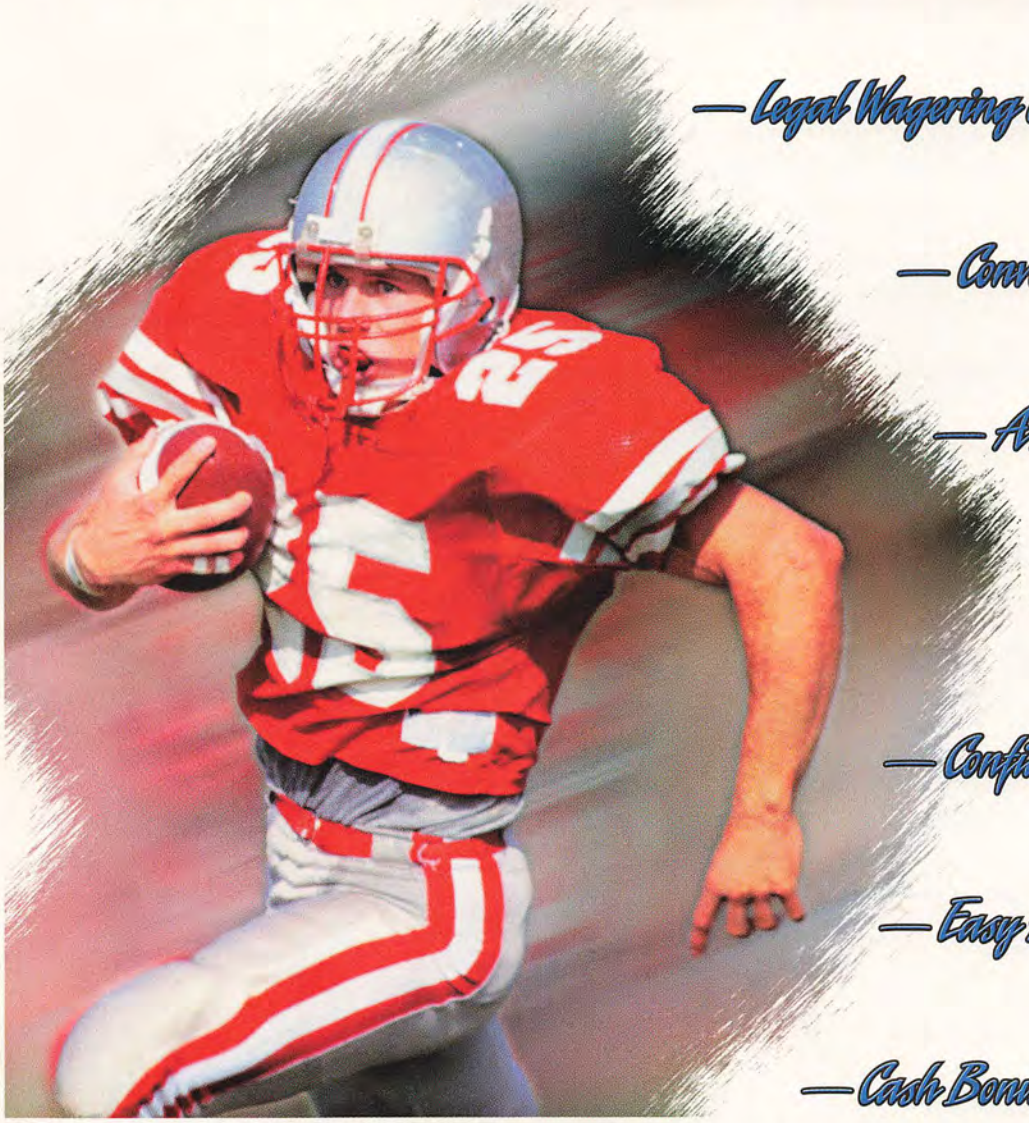

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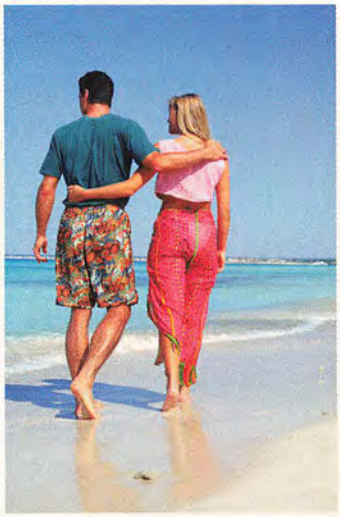

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# 1997 college schedules

* Home game

## SEC

### ALABAMA
TUSCALOOSA, ALA.
(10–3)
A. 30 HOUSTON*
S. 11 VANDERBILT
S. 20 ARKANSAS*
S. 27 SOUTHERN MISS*
O. 4 KENTUCKY*
O. 18 TENNESSEE*
O. 25 MISSISSIPPI
N. 8 LSU*
N. 15 MISSISSIPPI ST.*
N. 22 AUBURN

### ARKANSAS
FAYETTEVILLE, ARK.
(4–7)
S. 6 NE LOUISIANA*
S. 13 SMU
S. 20 ALABAMA
S. 27 LOUISIANA TECH*
O. 4 FLORIDA
O. 18 SOUTH CAROLINA*
O. 25 AUBURN*
N. 6 OLE MISS
N. 15 TENNESSEE*
N. 22 MISSISSIPPI ST.*
N. 28 LSU

### AUBURN
AUBURN, ALA.
(8–4)
S. 4 VIRGINIA
S. 13 OLE MISS*
S. 20 LSU
S. 27 C. FLORIDA*
O. 4 SOUTH CAROLINA
O. 11 LOUISIANA TECH*
O. 18 FLORIDA*
O. 25 ARKANSAS*
N. 1 MISSISSIPPI ST.
N. 15 GEORGIA
N. 22 ALABAMA*

### FLORIDA
GAINESVILLE, FLA.
(11–1)
A. 30 SOUTHERN MISS*
S. 6 C. MICHIGAN*
S. 20 TENNESSEE*
S. 27 KENTUCKY
O. 4 ARKANSAS*
O. 11 LSU
O. 18 AUBURN
N. 1 GEORGIA*
N. 8 VANDERBILT*
N. 15 SOUTH CAROLINA
N. 22 FLORIDA STATE*

### GEORGIA
ATHENS, GA.
(5–6)
A. 30 ARKANSAS ST.*
S. 13 SOUTH CAROLINA*
S. 20 NE LOUISIANA*
O. 4 MISSISSIPPI ST.*
O. 11 TENNESSEE
O. 18 VANDERBILT
O. 25 KENTUCKY*
N. 1 FLORIDA
N. 15 AUBURN*
N. 22 OLE MISS
N. 29 GEORGIA TECH

### KENTUCKY
LEXINGTON, KY.
(4–7)
A. 30 LOUISVILLE*
S. 6 MISSISSIPPI ST.
S. 20 INDIANA
S. 27 FLORIDA*
O. 4 ALABAMA*
O. 11 SOUTH CAROLINA
O. 18 NE LOUISIANA*
O. 25 GEORGIA
N. 1 LSU*
N. 15 VANDERBILT
N. 22 TENNESSEE*

### LOUISIANA STATE
BATON ROUGE, LA.
(9–2)
S. 6 TEXAS-EL PASO*
S. 13 MISSISSIPPI ST.
S. 20 AUBURN*
S. 27 AKRON*
O. 4 VANDERBILT
O. 11 FLORIDA*
O. 18 MISSISSIPPI*
N. 1 KENTUCKY
N. 8 ALABAMA
N. 15 NOTRE DAME*
N. 28 ARKANSAS*

### MISSISSIPPI
OXFORD, MISS.
(5–6)
A. 30 CENTRAL FLORIDA*
S. 6 SMU*
S. 13 AUBURN
S. 27 VANDERBILT*
O. 4 TENNESSEE
O. 18 LSU
O. 25 ALABAMA*
N. 6 ARKANSAS*
N. 15 TULANE
N. 22 GEORGIA*
N. 29 MISSISSIPPI ST.

### MISSISSIPPI STATE
STARKVILLE, MISS.
(5–6)
A. 30 MEMPHIS*
S. 6 KENTUCKY*
S. 13 LSU*
S. 27 SOUTH CAROLINA*
O. 4 GEORGIA
O. 11 NE LOUISIANA*
O. 25 C.FLORIDA*
N. 1 AUBURN
N. 15 ALABAMA
N. 22 ARKANSAS
N. 29 MISSISSIPPI*

### SOUTH CAROLINA
COLUMBIA, S.C.
(6–5)
S. 6 C. FLORIDA*
S. 13 GEORGIA
S. 20 EAST CAROLINA
S. 27 MISSISSIPPI ST.
O. 4 AUBURN*
O. 11 KENTUCKY*
O. 18 ARKANSAS
O. 25 VANDERBILT*
N. 1 TENNESSEE
N. 15 FLORIDA*
N. 22 CLEMSON*

### TENNESSEE
KNOXVILLE, TENN.
(10–2)
A. 30 TEXAS TECH*
S. 6 UCLA
S. 20 FLORIDA
O. 4 MISSISSIPPI*
O. 11 GEORGIA*
O. 18 ALABAMA
N. 1 SOUTH CAROLINA*
N. 8 SOUTHERN MISS
N. 15 ARKANSAS
N. 22 KENTUCKY
N. 29 VANDERBILT*

### VANDERBILT
NASHVILLE, TENN.
(2–9)
A. 30 NORTH TEXAS*
S. 11 ALABAMA*
S. 20 TCU*
S. 27 MISSISSIPPI
O. 4 LSU*
O. 11 NORTHERN ILLINOIS
O. 18 GEORGIA*
O. 25 SOUTH CAROLINA
N. 8 FLORIDA
N. 15 KENTUCKY*
N. 29 TENNESSEE

## WESTERN ATHLETIC

### AIR FORCE
COLO. SPRINGS, COLO.
(6–5)
A. 30 IDAHO*
S. 6 RICE
S. 13 UNLV*
S. 20 COLORADO ST.
S. 27 SAN DIEGO ST.*
O. 4 CITADEL*
O. 11 NAVY
O. 18 FLORIDA STATE*
O. 25 SAN JOSE ST.
N. 1 HAWAII
N. 8 ARMY*
N. 15 WYOMING*

### BRIGHAM YOUNG
PROVO, UTAH
(14–1)
S. 6 WASHINGTON*
S. 20 ARIZONA ST.
S. 27 SMU
O. 3 UTAH STATE*
O. 11 RICE
O. 18 HAWAII*
O. 25 TCU*
N. 1 UTEP
N. 8 TULSA*
N. 15 NEW MEXICO
N. 22 UTAH*

### COLORADO STATE
FORT COLLINS, COLO.
(7–5)
A. 30 NEVADA*
S. 6 COLORADO
S. 13 UTAH STATE
S. 20 AIR FORCE*
O. 4 HAWAII*
O. 11 SAN JOSE ST.
O. 18 WYOMING
O. 25 TULSA*
N. 1 UNLV
N. 8 FRESNO STATE*
N. 22 SAN DIEGO ST.

### FRESNO STATE
FRESNO, CALIF.
(4–7)
A. 30 PORTLAND ST.*
S. 6 BAYLOR*
S. 13 OKLAHOMA ST.
S. 20 OREGON
O. 4 UTAH*
O. 11 HAWAII
O. 18 AIR FORCE
O. 25 UNLV*
N. 1 SAN JOSE ST.
N. 8 COLORADO ST.
N. 15 SAN DIEGO ST.*
N. 22 WYOMING*

### HAWAII
HONOLULU, HAWAII
(2–10)
A. 30 MINNESOTA*
S. 6 CAL ST.-NORTH.
S. 13 WYOMING*
S. 20 UNLV
O. 4 COLORADO ST.
O. 11 FRESNO STATE*
O. 18 BYU
O. 25 SAN DIEGO ST.*
N. 1 AIR FORCE*
N. 15 SAN JOSE ST.
N. 22 NE LOUISIANA*
N. 29 NOTRE DAME*

### NEW MEXICO
ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.
(6–5)
A. 30 N. ARIZONA*
S. 6 NEW MEXICO ST.*
S. 13 UTEP
S. 27 UTAH STATE
O. 4 SMU*
O. 11 SAN DIEGO ST.
O. 18 RICE*
O. 25 UTAH
N. 1 TCU
N. 15 BYU*
N. 22 TULSA*

### RICE
HOUSTON, TEXAS
(7–4)
S. 6 AIR FORCE*
S. 13 TULANE
S. 20 NORTHWESTERN
S. 27 TEXAS*
O. 4 TULSA
O. 11 BYU*
O. 18 NEW MEXICO
N. 1 SMU
N. 8 TCU*
N. 15 UTAH
N. 22 UTEP*

### SAN DIEGO STATE
SAN DIEGO, CALIF.
(8–3)
S. 13 WASHINGTON
S. 20 WISCONSIN
S. 27 AIR FORCE
O. 4 ARIZONA
O. 11 NEW MEXICO*
O. 18 UNLV*
O. 25 HAWAII
N. 1 WYOMING
N. 8 SAN JOSE ST.*
N. 15 FRESNO STATE
N. 22 COLORADO ST.*

### SAN JOSE STATE
SAN JOSE, CALIF.
(3–9)
S. 6 STANFORD
S. 13 WISCONSIN*
S. 20 WYOMING
O. 4 OREGON ST.
O. 11 COLORADO ST.*
O. 18 UTEP
O. 25 AIR FORCE*
N. 1 FRESNO ST.*
N. 8 SAN DIEGO ST.
N. 15 HAWAII*
N. 22 UNLV

### SMU
DALLAS, TEXAS
(5–6)
S. 6 MISSISSIPPI
S. 13 ARKANSAS*
S. 20 NAVY*
S. 27 BYU*
O. 4 NEW MEXICO
O. 11 UTAH
O. 25 WYOMING*
N. 1 RICE*
N. 8 UTEP*
N. 15 TULSA
N. 22 TCU

### TEXAS CHRISTIAN
FORT WORTH, TEXAS
(4–7)
S. 6 KANSAS
S. 13 UTAH*
S. 20 VANDERBILT
O. 4 NORTH CAROLINA*
O. 11 UNLV
O. 18 TULSA*
O. 25 BYU
N. 1 NEW MEXICO*
N. 8 RICE
N. 15 UTEP
N. 22 SMU*

### TULSA
TULSA, OKLA.
(4–7)
A. 28 CINCINNATI
S. 13 IOWA
S. 20 MISSOURI*
O. 4 RICE*
O. 11 UTEP*
O. 18 TCU
O. 25 COLORADO ST.
N. 1 UTAH*
N. 8 BYU
N. 15 SMU*
N. 22 NEW MEXICO

### UNLV
LAS VEGAS, NEV.
(1–11)
S. 6 NEVADA
S. 13 AIR FORCE
S. 20 HAWAII*
S. 27 ILLINOIS STATE
O. 4 USC
O. 11 TCU*
O. 18 SAN DIEGO ST.
O. 25 FRESNO ST.
N. 1 COLORADO ST.*
N. 8 WYOMING
N. 22 SAN JOSE ST.*

### UTAH
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
(8–4)
A. 30 UTAH STATE*
S. 6 LOUISVILLE
S. 13 TCU
S. 20 UTEP*
O. 4 FRESNO STATE
O. 11 SMU*
O. 18 OREGON
O. 25 NEW MEXICO*
N. 1 TULSA
N. 15 RICE*
N. 22 BYU

### UTEP
EL PASO, TEXAS
(2–9)
S. 6 LSU
S. 13 NEW MEXICO*
S. 20 UTAH
S. 27 NEW MEXICO ST.*
O. 4 CLEMSON
O. 11 TULSA
O. 18 SAN JOSE ST.*
N. 1 BYU*
N. 8 SMU
N. 15 TCU*
N. 22 RICE

### WYOMING
LARAMIE, WYO.
(10–2)
A. 28 OHIO STATE
S. 6 IOWA STATE*
S. 13 HAWAII
S. 20 SAN JOSE ST.*
S. 27 COLORADO
O. 11 NEVADA
O. 18 COLORADO ST.*
O. 25 SMU
N. 1 SAN DIEGO ST.*
N. 8 UNLV*
N. 15 AIR FORCE
N. 22 FRESNO STATE

## I-A INDEPENDENTS

### ARKANSAS STATE
JONESBORO, ARK.
(4–7)
A. 30 GEORGIA
S. 6 C. ARKANSAS*
S. 13 NEW MEXICO ST.
S. 20 SOUTHERN UTAH*
S. 27 VIRGINIA TECH
O. 4 SW LOUISIANA*
O. 11 MEMPHIS
O. 18 LOUISIANA TECH
N. 1 MIAMI
N. 8 SW MISSOURI ST.*
N. 22 UAB*

### ARMY
WEST POINT, N.Y.
(10–2)
S. 6 MARSHALL*
S. 13 LAFAYETTE*
S. 20 DUKE
S. 27 MIAMI (OH)*
O. 4 TULANE
O. 18 RUTGERS*
O. 25 COLGATE*
N. 8 AIR FORCE
N. 15 NORTH TEXAS*
N. 22 BOSTON COLLEGE
D. 6 NAVY@
@E. RUTHERFORD, NJ

### CENTRAL FLORIDA
ORLANDO, FLA.
(5–6)
A. 30 MISSISSIPPI
S. 6 SOUTH CAROLINA
S. 13 NEBRASKA
S. 20 IDAHO*
S. 27 AUBURN
O. 4 KENT
O. 11 SAMFORD*
O. 25 MISSISSIPPI ST.
N. 1 NE LOUISIANA
N. 15 E. MICHIGAN*
N. 22 TOLEDO*

### LOUISIANA TECH
RUSTON, LA.
(6–5)
A. 30 BOWLING GREEN*
S. 13 NE LOUISIANA*
S. 20 CENTRAL MICHIGAN*
S. 27 ARKANSAS
O. 4 CALIFORNIA*
O. 11 AUBURN
O. 18 ARKANSAS ST.*
O. 25 BOISE STATE
N. 1 ALABAMA
N. 8 UAB
N. 15 SW LOUISIANA

### NAVY
ANNAPOLIS, MD.
(8–3)
S. 5 SAN DIEGO ST.
S. 13 RUTGERS*
S. 20 SMU
S. 27 DUKE
O. 11 AIR FORCE*
O. 18 VMI*
N. 1 NOTRE DAME
N. 8 TEMPLE*
N. 15 COLGATE*
N. 22 KENT*
D. 6 ARMY@
@ E. RUTHERFORD, NJ

### NE LOUISIANA
MONROE, LA.
(5–6)
A. 30 NICHOLLS ST.*
S. 6 ARKANSAS
S. 13 LA. TECH
S. 20 GEORGIA
S. 27 OKLAHOMA ST.
O. 4 NORTHWESTERN ST.*
O. 11 MISSISSIPPI ST.
O. 18 KENTUCKY
O. 25 SW LOUISIANA
N. 1 C. FLORIDA
N. 15 W. MICHIGAN*
N. 22 HAWAII

### NOTRE DAME
SOUTH BEND, IND.
(8–3)
S. 6 GEORGIA TECH*
S. 13 PURDUE
S. 20 MICHIGAN ST.*
S. 27 MICHIGAN
O. 4 STANFORD
O. 11 PITTSBURGH
O. 18 USC*
O. 25 BOSTON COLLEGE*
N. 1 NAVY*
N. 15 LSU
N. 22 WEST VIRGINIA*
N. 29 HAWAII

### SW LOUISIANA
LAFAYETTE, LA.
(5–6)
A. 30 PITTSBURGH
S. 6 OKLAHOMA ST.*
S. 13 TEXAS TECH
S. 20 TEXAS A&M
S. 27 UAB*
O. 4 ARKANSAS ST.
O. 11 WASHINGTON ST
O. 25 NE LOUISIANA*
N. 1 TULANE*
N. 15 LA. TECH*

### UAB
BIRMINGHAM, AL
(5–6)
A. 28 KANSAS
S. 6 MEMPHIS
S. 13 ARIZONA
S. 20 JACKSONVILLE ST.*
S. 27 SW LOUISIANA
O. 4 WESTERN KY.*
O. 11 CINCINNATI
N. 1 VIRGINIA TECH
N. 8 LOUISIANA TECH*
N. 15 TENNESSEE TECH*
N. 22 ARKANSAS ST.

# 1997 college schedules

*** Home game**

## ATLANTIC 10

### BOSTON
BOSTON, MASS.
(1–10)
S. 6 HOFSTRA
S.20 YOUNGSTOWN ST.*
S.27 WM. AND MARY
O. 4 DELAWARE*
O.11 RHODE ISLAND*
O.18 MAINE
O.25 NORTHEASTERN*
N. 1 CONNECTICUT
N. 8 MASSACHUSETTS*
N.15 NEW HAMPSHIRE
N.22 JAMES MADISON*

### CONNECTICUT
STORRS, CONN.
(4–6)
S.13 NORTHEASTERN*
S.20 HOFSTRA
S.27 YALE
O. 4 BUFFALO*
O.11 MAINE
O.18 WM. AND MARY*
O.25 RHODE ISLAND*
N. 1 BOSTON*
N. 8 DELAWARE
N.15 MASSACHUSETTS
N.22 NEW HAMPSHIRE*

### DELAWARE
NEWARK, DEL.
(8–4)
S. 6 NEW HAMPSHIRE
S.13 VILLANOVA*
S.20 WEST CHESTER*
S.27 NORTHEASTERN
O. 4 BOSTON
O.11 RICHMOND*
O.18 JAMES MADISON
O.25 MASSACHUSETTS
N. 1 WM. AND MARY*
N. 8 CONNECTICUT*
N.15 LEHIGH

### JAMES MADISON
HARRISONBURG, VA.
(7–4)
S. 6 BALL STATE
S.13 EAST TENN. ST.*
S.20 MASSACHUSETTS*
S.27 MAINE
O. 4 VILLANOVA
O.11 WM. AND MARY
O.18 DELAWARE*
O.25 RICHMOND*
N. 8 NORTHEASTERN
N.15 RHODE ISLAND*
N.22 BOSTON

### MAINE
ORONO, MAINE
(7–4)
S. 6 RHODE ISLAND
S.13 MASSACHUSETTS*
S.20 VILLANOVA
S.27 JAMES MADISON*
O. 4 RICHMOND
O.11 CONNECTICUT*
O.18 BOSTON*
O.25 NEW HAMPSHIRE
N. 8 BUFFALO
N.15 NORTHEASTERN
N.22 HOFSTRA

### MASSACHUSETTS
AMHERST, MASS.
(6–5)
A.30 RICHMOND*
S.13 MAINE
S.20 JAMES MADISON
S.27 RHODE ISLAND*
O. 4 NEW HAMPSHIRE*
O.11 VILLANOVA
O.18 BUFFALO
O.25 DELAWARE*
N. 1 HOFSTRA*
N. 8 BOSTON
N.15 CONNECTICUT*

### NEW HAMPSHIRE
DURHAM, N.H.
(8–3)
S. 6 DELAWARE*
S.13 RHODE ISLAND
S.20 WM. AND MARY*
S.27 STEPHEN F. AUSTIN
O. 4 MASSACHUSETTS
O.11 HOFSTRA*
O.18 NORTHEASTERN
O.25 MAINE*
N. 8 VILLANOVA
N.15 BOSTON*
N.22 CONNECTICUT

### NORTHEASTERN
BOSTON, MASS.
(6–5)
S. 6 ST. MARY'S (CA)
S.13 CONNECTICUT
S.20 RHODE ISLAND
S.27 DELAWARE*
O. 4 WM. AND MARY*
O.18 NEW HAMPSHIRE*
O.25 BOSTON
N. 1 RICHMOND
N. 8 JAMES MADISON*
N.15 MAINE*
N.22 VILLANOVA

### RHODE ISLAND
KINGSTON, R.I.
(4–6)
S. 6 MAINE*
S.13 NEW HAMPSHIRE*
S.20 NORTHEASTERN*
S.27 MASSACHUSETTS
O. 4 HOFSTRA*
O.11 BOSTON
O.18 BROWN
O.25 CONNECTICUT
N. 1 VILLANOVA*
N. 8 RICHMOND
N.15 JAMES MADISON

### RICHMOND
RICHMOND, VA.
(2–9)
A.30 MASSACHUSETTS
S. 6 COLGATE
S.13 VIRGINIA
S.20 VMI*
O. 4 MAINE*
O.11 DELAWARE
O.18 VILLANOVA*
O.25 JAMES MADISON
N. 1 NORTHEASTERN*
N. 8 RHODE ISLAND*
N.15 WM. AND MARY

### VILLANOVA
VILLANOVA, PA.
(8–4)
A.28 WEST CHESTER*
S.13 DELAWARE
S.20 MAINE*
O. 4 JAMES MADISON*
O.11 MASSACHUSETTS*
O.18 RICHMOND
O.25 WM. AND MARY
N. 1 RHODE ISLAND
N. 8 NEW HAMPSHIRE*
N.15 BUFFALO*
N.22 NORTHEASTERN*

### WILLIAM & MARY
WILLIAMSBURG, VA.
(10–3)
A.30 HAMPTON*
S. 6 GA. SOUTHERN
S.13 VMI
S.20 NEW HAMPSHIRE
S.27 BOSTON*
O. 4 NORTHEASTERN
O.11 JAMES MADISON*
O.18 CONNECTICUT
O.25 VILLANOVA*
N. 1 DELAWARE
N.15 RICHMOND*

## BIG SKY

### CAL ST.-NORTHRIDGE
NORTHRIDGE, CALIF.
(7–4)
A.30 BOISE STATE
S. 8 HAWAII
S.20 NEW MEXICO ST.
O. 4 PORTLAND ST.
O.11 WEBER STATE*
O.18 MONTANA ST.
O.25 CAL ST.-SAC.*
N. 1 MONTANA
N. 8 IDAHO STATE*
N.15 E. WASHINGTON
N.22 N. ARIZONA*

### CAL ST.-SAC.
SACRAMENTO, CALIF.
(1–10)
S. 4 S.W. TEXAS
S.20 UC DAVIS*
S.27 MONTANA
O. 4 IDAHO STATE*
O.11 E. WASHINGTON
O.18 N. ARIZONA*
O.25 CAL ST.-NORTH.
N. 1 PORLAND ST.*
N. 8 WEBER STATE
N.15 MONTANA ST.*

### E. WASHINGTON
CHENEY, WASH.
(6–5)
S. 6 ROCKY MT. COLL.*
S.13 PORTLAND ST.
S.27 WEBER ST.*
O. 4 MONTANA ST.
O.11 CAL ST.-SAC.*
O.18 MONTANA
O.25 IDAHO STATE*
N. 1 IDAHO*
N. 8 N. ARIZONA
N.15 CAL ST.-NORTH.*

### IDAHO STATE
POCATELLO, IDAHO
(4–7)
S. 6 UTAH STATE
S.13 IDAHO*
S.27 MONTANA ST.*
O. 4 CAL ST.-SAC.
O.11 MONTANA*
O.18 SO. UTAH*
O.25 E. WASHINGTON
N. 1 N. ARIZONA*
N. 8 CAL ST.-NORTH.
N.15 PORTLAND ST.*
N.22 WEBER STATE

### MONTANA
MISSOULA, MONT.
(14–1)
A.30 WYOMING
S.13 S.F. AUSTIN*
S.20 ST. MARY'S (CA)*
S.27 CAL ST.-SAC.*
O.11 IDAHO STATE
O.18 E. WASHINGTON*
O.25 N. ARIZONA
N. 1 CAL ST.-NORTH.*
N. 8 PORTLAND ST.
N.15 WEBER STATE*
N.22 MONTANA ST.

### MONTANA STATE
BOZEMAN, MONT.
(6–5)
S.13 CHANDRON ST.*
S.20 SW TEXAS
S.27 IDAHO STATE
O. 4 E. WASHINGTON*
O.11 N. ARIZONA
O.18 CAL ST.-NORTH.*
O.25 PORTLAND ST.
N. 1 WEBER STATE*
N. 8 CAL POLY*
N.15 CAL ST.-SAC.
N.22 MONTANA*

### NORTHERN ARIZONA
FLAGSTAFF, ARIZ.
(9–3)
A.30 NEW MEXICO
S.20 MN-DULUTH*
S.27 PORTLAND ST.*
O. 4 WEBER STATE
O.11 MONTANA ST.*
O.18 CAL ST.-SAC.
O.25 MONTANA*
N. 1 IDAHO STATE
N. 8 E. WASHINGTON*
N.22 CAL ST.-NORTH.

### PORTLAND STATE
PORTLAND, ORE.
(3–8)
A.30 FRESNO STATE
S. 6 IDAHO
S.13 E. WASHINGTON*
S.27 N. ARIZONA
O. 4 CAL ST.-NORTH.*
O.11 ST. MARY'S (CA)
O.18 WEBER STATE
O.25 MONTANA ST.*
N. 1 CAL ST.-SAC.
N. 8 MONTANA*
N.15 IDAHO STATE

### WEBER STATE
OGDEN, UTAH
(7–4)
S. 6 WESTERN ST.*
S.13 SO. UTAH*
S.20 BOISE STATE
S.27 E. WASHINGTON
O. 4 N. ARIZONA*
O.11 CAL ST.-NORTH.
O.18 PORTLAND ST.*
N. 1 MONTANA ST.
N. 8 CAL ST.-SAC.*
N.15 MONTANA
N.22 IDAHO STATE*

## GATEWAY

### ILLINOIS STATE
NORMAL, ILL.
(3–8)
A.30 SOUTHERN UTAH
S. 6 BUFFALO*
S.13 SE MISSOURI ST.
S.20 E. ILLINOIS*
S.27 UNLV
O. 4 NORTHERN IOWA*
O.11 S. ILLINOIS
O.18 SW MISSOURI
O.25 INDIANA ST.*
N. 1 YOUNGSTOWN ST.
N. 8 W. ILLINOIS*

### INDIANA STATE
TERRE HAUTE, IND.
(6–5)
A.28 MURRAY ST.
S. 6 KENTUCKY ST.*
S.13 NORTH TEXAS
S.20 S. ILLINOIS*
O. 4 YOUNGSTOWN ST.*
O.11 SW MISSOURI
O.18 W. ILLINOIS*
O.25 ILLINOIS ST.
N. 1 E. ILLINOIS*
N. 8 WESTERN KY.*
N.15 NORTHERN IOWA

### NORTHERN IOWA
CEDAR FALLS, IOWA
(12–1)
S. 6 IOWA
S.13 MANKATO ST.*
S.20 McNEESE ST.
S.27 S. ILLINOIS*
O. 4 ILLINOIS ST.
O.11 W. ILLINOIS
O.18 YOUNGSTOWN ST.*
O.25 CAL POLY
N. 1 SW MISSOURI
N. 8 SOUTHERN UTAH*
N.15 INDIANA ST.*

### SOUTHERN ILLINOIS
CARBONDALE, ILL.
(5–6)
S. 6 NICHOLLS ST.
S.13 MURRAY ST.*
S.20 INDIANA ST.
S.27 NORTHERN IOWA
O. 4 SW MISSOURI*
O.11 ILLINOIS ST.*
O.18 SOUTH FLORIDA
O.25 WESTERN KY.*
N. 1 W. ILLINOIS
N. 8 YOUNGSTOWN ST.*
N.15 SE MISSOURI

### SW MISSOURI STATE
SPRINGFIELD, MO
(7–4)
A.28 PITTSBURG ST.*
S. 6 JACKSONVILLE ST.
S.13 McNEESE ST.*
S.20 TENN.-MARTIN*
O. 4 S. ILLINOIS
O.11 INDIANA ST.*
O.18 ILLINOIS ST.*
O.25 W. ILLINOIS
N. 1 NORTHERN IOWA*
N. 8 ARKANSAS ST.
N.15 YOUNGSTOWN ST.

### WESTERN ILLINOIS
MACOMB, ILL.
(9–3)
A.28 E. ILLINOIS*
S. 6 TRUMAN ST.*
S.13 ALCORN ST.
S.20 MARSHALL
O. 4 SOUTHERN UTAH
O.11 NORTHERN IOWA*
O.18 INDIANA ST.
O.25 SW MISSOURI*
N. 1 S. ILLINOIS*
N. 8 ILLINOIS ST.
N.22 YOUNGSTOWN ST.

### YOUNGSTOWN ST.
YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO
(8–3)
A.28 SLIPPERY ROCK*
S. 6 KENT*
S.20 BOSTON
S.27 HOFSTRA*
O. 4 INDIANA ST.
O.11 BUFFALO*
O.18 NORTHERN IOWA
N. 1 ILLINOIS ST.*
N. 8 S. ILLINOIS
N.15 SW MISSOURI*
N.22 W. ILLINOIS*

## IVY LEAGUE

### BROWN
PROVIDENCE, R.I.
(5–5)
S.20 YALE
S.27 LAFAYETTE*
O. 4 FORDHAM
O.11 PRINCETON*
O.18 RHODE ISLAND*
O.25 PENNSYLVANIA
N. 1 CORNELL*
N. 8 HARVARD*
N.15 DARTMOUTH
N.22 COLUMBIA*

### COLUMBIA
NEW YORK, N.Y.
(8–2)
S.20 HARVARD
S.27 TOWSON STATE*
O. 4 LAFAYETTE
O.11 HOLY CROSS*
O.18 PENNSYLVANIA*
O.25 YALE*
N. 1 PRINCETON
N. 8 DARTMOUTH*
N.15 CORNELL
N.22 BROWN

### CORNELL
ITHACA, N.Y.
(4–6)
S.20 PRINCETON
S.27 COLGATE*
O. 4 DARTMOUTH
O.11 HARVARD*
O.18 LAFAYETTE*
O.25 FORDHAM
N. 1 BROWN
N. 8 YALE*
N.15 COLUMBIA*
N.22 PENNSYLVANIA

### DARTMOUTH
HANOVER, N.H.
(10–0)
S.20 PENNSYLVANIA
S.27 HOLY CROSS
O. 4 CORNELL*
O.11 FORDHAM
O.18 YALE
O.25 LEHIGH*
N. 1 HARVARD*
N. 8 COLUMBIA
N.15 BROWN*
N.22 PRINCETON*

### HARVARD
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.
(4–6)
S.20 COLUMBIA*
S.27 LEHIGH
O. 4 BUCKNELL*
O.11 CORNELL
O.18 HOLY CROSS*
O.25 PRINCETON*
N. 1 DARTMOUTH
N. 8 BROWN
N.15 PENNSYLVANIA*
N.22 YALE

### PENNSYLVANIA
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
(5–5)
S.20 DARTMOUTH*
S.27 BUCKNELL
O. 4 TOWSON STATE*
O.11 LEHIGH
O.18 COLUMBIA
O.25 BROWN*
N. 1 YALE
N. 8 PRINCETON*
N.15 HARVARD
N.22 CORNELL*

### PRINCETON
PRINCETON, N.J.
(3–7)
S.20 CORNELL*
S.27 FORDHAM*
O. 4 HOLY CROSS
O.11 BROWN
O.18 COLGATE*
O.25 HARVARD
N. 1 COLUMBIA*
N. 8 PENNSYLVANIA
N.15 YALE*
N.22 DARTMOUTH

### YALE
NEW HAVEN, CONN.
(2–8)
S.20 BROWN*
S.27 CONNECTICUT*
O. 4 VALPARAISO@
O.11 BUCKNELL*
O.18 DARTMOUTH*
O.25 COLUMBIA
N. 1 PENNSYLVANIA*
N. 8 CORNELL
N.15 PRINCETON
N.22 HARVARD*
@SOLDIER FIELD, CHICAGO

# 1997 college schedules

* Home game

## METRO ATLANTIC

**CANISIUS**
BUFFALO, N.Y.
(5–4)
S.13 GANNON*
S.20 ST. PETER'S
S.27 SIENNA
O. 4 IONA*
O.11 GEORGETOWN*
O.18 ALFRED*
O.25 FAIRFIELD*
N. 1 ST. JOHN'S
N. 8 MARIST*
N.15 DUQUESNE

**DUQUESNE**
PITTSBURGH, PA.
(10–1)
S. 6 BUCKNELL
S.13 ST. FRANCIS*
S.20 SIENA*
O. 4 MARIST
O.11 FAIRFIELD
O.18 ST. JOHN'S*
O.25 GEORGETOWN
N. 1 IONA
N. 8 ST. PETER'S*
N.15 CANISIUS*

**FAIRFIELD**
FAIRFIELD, CONN.
(1–8)
S.20 ST. JOHN'S*
S.27 GEORGETOWN
O. 4 C. CONN. ST.*
O.11 DUQUESNE*
O.18 MARIST*
O.25 CANISIUS
N. 1 SIENA*
N. 8 IONA
N.15 ST. PETER'S

**GEORGETOWN**
WASHINGTON, D.C.
(7–3)
S.13 MARIST
S.20 HOLY CROSS
S.27 FAIRFIELD*
O. 4 SIENA*
O.11 CANISIUS
O.18 IONA
O.25 DUQUESNE*
O.31 ST. PETER'S
N. 8 ST. JOHN'S*
N.15 FORDHAM*

**IONA**
NEW ROCHELLE, N.Y.
(1–9)
S.13 WAGNER
S.20 MARIST*
S.27 PACE*
O. 4 CANISIUS
O.11 SIENA
O.18 GEORGETOWN*
O.25 ST. PETER'S
N. 1 DUQUESNE*
N. 8 FAIRFIELD*
N.15 ST. JOHN'S

**MARIST**
POUGHKEEPSIE, N.Y.
(7–3)
S.13 GEORGETOWN*
S.20 IONA
S.27 ST. PETER'S*
O. 4 DUQUESNE*
O.10 ST. JOHN'S
O.18 FAIRFIELD
O.25 WAGNER*
N. 1 ST. FRANCIS
N. 8 CANISIUS
N.15 SIENA*

**ST. JOHN'S**
JAMAICA, N.Y.
(6–4)
S.12 CENTRAL CONN.*
S.20 FAIRFIELD
S.27 STONY BROOK
O. 4 ST. PETER'S*
O.10 MARIST*
O.18 DUQUESNE
O.25 SIENA
N. 1 CANISIUS*
N. 8 GEORGETOWN
N.15 IONA*
N.27 SACRED HEART*

**ST. PETER'S**
JERSEY CITY, N.J.
(2–7)
S.12 LASALLE*
S.20 CANISIUS*
S.27 MARIST
O. 4 ST. JOHN'S
O.11 WAGNER*
O.18 SIENA
O.25 IONA*
O.31 GEORGETOWN*
N. 8 DUQUESNE
N.15 FAIRFIELD*

**SIENA**
LOUDONVILLE, N.Y.
(2–7)
S.20 DUQUESNE
S.27 CANISIUS*
O. 4 GEORGETOWN
O.11 IONA*
O.18 ST. PETER'S*
O.25 ST. JOHN'S*
N. 1 FAIRFIELD
N. 8 MIT
N.15 MARIST

## MID-EASTERN

**BETHUNE-COOKMAN**
DAYTONA BEACH, FLA.
(2–9)
S. 6 MORRIS B.*
S.13 MORGAN STATE*
S.20 FAYETTEVILLE*
S.27 CHEYNEY U.*
O. 4 DELAWARE ST.
O.11 HOWARD*
O.18 S.C. STATE
N. 1 N.C. A&T*
N. 8 HAMPTON*
N.15 NORFOLK
N.22 FLORIDA A&M

**DELAWARE STATE**
DOVER, DEL.
(3–8)
S. 6 CHEYNEY U.*
S.13 BUFFALO
S.20 NORFOLK*
S.27 LIBERTY*
O. 4 B.-COOKMAN*
O.18 FLORIDA A&M
O.25 MORGAN*
N. 1 S.C. STATE
N. 8 N.C. A&T
N.15 HAMPTON
N.22 HOWARD*

**FLORIDA A&M**
TALLAHASSEE, FLA.
(9–3)
A.30 TENNESSEE ST.*
S.13 NORFOLK STATE*
S.20 JACKSON STATE*
S.27 HOWARD
O. 4 HAMPTON
O.11 N.C. A&T
O.18 DELAWARE ST.*
N. 1 MORGAN
N. 8 SOUTHERN U.*
N.15 S.C. STATE
N.22 B.-COOKMAN

**HAMPTON**
HAMPTON,VA
(5–6)
A.30 WM. & MARY
S.13 HOWARD
S.20 N.C. A&T
S.27 GRAMBLING
O. 4 FLORIDA A&M
O.11 LIBERTY
O.18 NORFOLK
O.25 S.C. STATE
N. 8 B.-COOKMAN
N.15 DELAWARE ST.*
N.22 MORGAN*

**HOWARD**
WASHINGTON, D.C.
(9–2)
S. 6 JACKSON ST.
S.13 HAMPTON*
S.20 ARK.-PINE BLUFF*%
S.27 FLORIDA A&M*
O.11 B.-COOKMAN
O.18 MOREHOUSE*
O.25 N.C. A&T
N. 1 NORFOLK
N. 8 S.C. STATE*
N.15 MORGAN
N.22 DELAWARE ST.
%ST. LOUIS

**MORGAN STATE**
BALTIMORE, MD.
(4–7)
S. 6 THE CITADEL
S.13 B.-COOKMAN
S.20 TEXAS SOUTHERN*
S.27 NORFOLK
O. 4 S.C. STATE*
O.18 N.C. A&T*
O.25 DELAWARE ST.
N. 1 FLORIDA A&M*
N. 8 CENTRAL O.*
N.15 HOWARD*
N.22 HAMPTON

**N. CAROLINA A&T**
GREENSBORO, N.C.
(8–3)
A.30 NCCU
S. 6 WINSTON
S.20 HAMPTON*
O. 4 TENNESSEE ST.
O.11 FLORIDA A&M*
O.18 MORGAN
O.25 HOWARD*
N. 1 B.-COOKMAN
N. 8 DELAWARE ST.*
N.15 GRAMBLING
N.22 S.C. STATE

**SOUTH CAROLINA ST.**
ORANGEBURG, S.C.
(4–6)
S. 6 CHAR. SO.*
S.13 FURMAN*
S.27 TENNESSEE ST.
O. 4 MORGAN
O.11 NORFOLK ST.*
O.18 B.-COOKMAN
O.25 HAMPTON
N. 1 DELAWARE ST.*
N. 8 HOWARD
N.15 FLORIDA A&M*
N.22 N.C. A&T

## NORTHEAST

**CENTRAL CONN. ST.**
NEW BRITAIN, CT.
(3–7)
S. 6 ALBANY*
S.12 ST. JOHN'S
S.20 FROSTBURG*
S.27 ROBERT MORRIS*
O. 4 FAIRFIELD
O.11 ST. FRANCIS
O.18 WAGNER
O.25 LASALLE
N. 8 S. CONN. ST.*
N.15 MONMOUTH*

**MONMOUTH**
W. LONG BRANCH, N.J.
(7–3)
S. 6 TOWSON STATE
S.13 DAYTON
S.20 LASALLE*
O. 4 NEW HAVEN*
O.18 ST. FRANCIS
O.25 ROBERT MORRIS*
N. 1 SACRED HEART
N. 8 WAGNER*
N.15 CENTRAL CONN.

**ROBERT MORRIS**
CORAPOLIS, PA.
(9–2)
S. 6 BUFFALO ST.*
S.13 BUTLER
S.20 DAYTON*
S.27 CENTRAL CONN.
O. 4 WAGNER*
O.18 TOWSON STATE
O.25 MONMOUTH
N. 1 MERCYHURST*
N. 8 ST. FRANCIS*
N.15 GANNON

**ST. FRANCIS**
LORETTO, PA.
(3–7)
S. 6 WAYNESBURG
S.13 DUQUESNE
S.20 BUTLER*
S.27 WAGNER
O. 4 MERCYHURST
O.11 CENTRAL CONN.*
O.18 MONMOUTH*
O.25 GANNON*
N. 1 MARIST*
N. 8 ROBERT MORRIS
N.15 LASALLE

**WAGNER**
STATEN ISLAND, N.Y.
(5–5)
S.13 IONA*
S.20 C.W. POST*
S.27 ST. FRANCIS*
O. 4 ROBERT MORRIS
O.11 ST. PETER'S
O.18 CENTRAL CONN.*
O.25 MARIST
N. 1 STONY BROOK*
N. 8 MONMOUTH
N.15 SAN DIEGO

## OHIO VALLEY

**EASTERN ILLINOIS**
CHARLESTON, ILL.
(8–4)
A.28 W. ILLINOIS
S. 6 TENN-MARTIN*
S.13 ST. JOSEPH'S*
S.20 ILLINOIS STATE
S.27 TENNESSEE TECH
O. 4 SE MISSOURI
O.18 MIDDLE TENN.*
O.25 AUSTIN PEAY*
N. 1 INDIANA STATE
N. 8 MURRAY STATE
N.22 EASTERN KY.*

**EASTERN KENTUCKY**
RICHMOND, KY.
(6–5)
S. 6 TROY STATE
S.13 WESTERN KY.*
S.20 APPALACHIAN ST.
S.27 AUSTIN PEAY*
O.11 TENNESSEE ST.
O.18 MURRAY ST.
O.25 TENN. TECH*
N. 1 TENN-MARTIN*
N. 8 SE MISSOURI*
N.15 MIDDLE TENN.*
N.22 E. ILLINOIS*

**MIDDLE TENNESSEE**
MURFREESBORO, TENN.
(6–5)
S. 6 TENN. STATE@
S.13 UT-CHATTANOOGA
S.27 MURRAY ST.*
O. 4 JACKSONVILLE ST.*
O.11 TENN.-MARTIN
O.18 E. ILLINOIS
O.25 SE MISSOURI*
N. 8 AUSTIN PEAY*
N.15 EASTERN KY.
N.22 TENNESSEE TECH
@VANDERBILT

**MURRAY STATE**
MURRAY, KY.
(11–2)
A.28 INDIANA ST.*
S. 6 WESTERN KY.
S.13 S. ILLINOIS
S.20 SE MISSOURI*
S.27 MIDDLE TENN.
O. 4 TENN.-MARTIN
O.11 AUSTIN PEAY*
O.18 EASTERN KY.*
N. 1 TENNESSEE TECH
N. 8 E. ILLINOIS*
N.15 TENNESSEE ST.

**SE MISSOURI ST.**
CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO.
(3–8)
A.30 LAMBUTH*
S.13 ILLINOIS STATE
S.20 MURRAY ST.
S.27 TENN.-MARTIN
O. 4 E. ILLINOIS*
O.11 TENN. TECH*
O.25 MIDDLE TENN.
N. 1 AUSTIN PEAY
N. 8 EASTERN KY.*
N.15 S. ILLINOIS*
N.22 TENNESSEE ST.*

**TENNESSEE STATE**
NASHVILLE, TENN.
(4–7)
A.30 FLORIDA A&M
S. 6 MIDDLE TENN.@
S.13 JACKSON ST.%
S.27 S. CAROLINA ST.#
O. 4 N. CAROLINA A&T+
O 11 EASTERN KY.*
O.18 TENN.-CHATT.
O.25 TENN.-MARTIN
N. 8 TENNESSEE TECH*
N.15 MURRAY ST.*
N.22 SE MISSOURI
@VANDERBILT
%MEMPHIS
#ATLANTA
+INDIANAPOLIS

**TENNESSEE TECH**
COOKEVILLE, TENN.
(5–6)
S. 6 TENN.-CHATT.
S.20 SAMFORD
S.27 E. ILLINOIS*
O. 4 AUSTIN PEAY
O.11 SE MISSOURI*
O.18 TENN.-MARTIN*
O.25 EASTERN KY.
N. 1 MURRAY ST.*
N. 8 TENNESSEE ST.
N.15 UAB
N.22 MIDDLE TENN.*

**TENN.-MARTIN**
MARTIN, TENN.
(1–10)
A.28 WESTERN KY.*
S. 6 E. ILLINOIS
S.20 SW MISSOURI
S.27 SE MISSOURI*
O. 4 MURRAY ST.*
O.11 MIDDLE TENN.*
O.18 TENNESSEE TECH
O.25 TENNESSEE ST.*
N. 1 EASTERN KY.
N. 9 SAMFORD*
N.15 AUSTIN PEAY

## PATRIOT

**BUCKNELL**
LEWISBURG, PA.
(6–5)
S. 6 DUQUESNE*
S.20 LAFAYETTE
S.27 PENNSYLVANIA*
O. 4 HARVARD
O.11 YALE
O.18 FORDHAM
O.25 HOLY CROSS*
N. 1 LEHIGH*
N. 8 ST. MARY'S
N.15 TOWSON ST.
N.22 COLGATE

**COLGATE**
HAMILTON, N.Y.
(6–5)
S. 6 RICHMOND*
S.20 FORDHAM*
S.27 CORNELL
O. 4 LEHIGH*
O.11 LAFAYETTE
O.18 PRINCETON*
O.25 ARMY
N. 1 HOLY CROSS
N. 8 TOWSON ST.*
N.15 NAVY
N.22 BUCKNELL*

**FORDHAM**
BRONX, N.Y.
(2–8)
S. 6 LAFAYETTE
S.13 LEHIGH*
S.20 COLGATE
S.27 PRINCETON
O. 4 BROWN*
O.11 DARTMOUTH*
O.18 BUCKNELL*
O.25 CORNELL*
N. 1 TOWSON ST *
N.15 GEORGETOWN
N.22 HOLY CROSS

**HOLY CROSS**
WORCHESTER, MASS.
(2–9)
S.13 TOWSON ST.
S.20 GEORGETOWN*
S.27 DARTMOUTH*
O. 4 PRINCETON*
O.11 COLUMBIA
O.18 HARVARD
O.25 BUCKNELL
N. 1 COLGATE*
N. 8 LEHIGH
N.15 LAFAYETTE*
N.22 FORDHAM*

**LAFAYETTE**
EASTON, PA.
(5–5)
S. 6 FORDHAM*
S.13 ARMY
S.20 BUCKNELL*
S.27 BROWN
O. 4 COLUMBIA*
O.11 COLGATE*
O.18 CORNELL
O.25 TOWSON ST.*
N. 1 NEW HAVEN*
N.15 HOLY CROSS
N.22 LEHIGH

**LEHIGH**
BETHLEHEM, PA.
(5–6)
S.13 FORDHAM
S.20 TOWSON ST.
S.27 HARVARD*
O. 4 COLGATE
O.11 PENNSYLVANIA*
O.18 HOFSTRA
O.25 DARTMOUTH
N. 1 BUCKNELL
N. 8 HOLY CROSS*
N.15 DELAWARE*
N. 2 LAFAYETTE*

**TOWSON STATE**
TOWSON, MD.
(6–4)
S. 6 MONMOUTH*
S.13 HOLY CROSS*
S.20 LEHIGH*
S.27 COLUMBIA
O. 4 PENNSYLVANIA
O.18 ROBERT MORRIS
O.25 LAFAYETTE
N. 1 FORDHAM
N. 8 COLGATE
N.15 BUCKNELL*

## PIONEER

**BUTLER**
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
(3–7)
S. 6 HOWARD PAYNE
S.13 ROBERT MORRIS*
S.20 ST. FRANCIS
S.27 CLINCH VALLEY*
O. 4 DAYTON
O.11 SAN DIEGO
O.18 VALPARAISO*
O.25 EVANSVILLE
N. 1 COLOGNE*
N. 8 DRAKE*
N.15 ST. JOSEPH'S*

**DAYTON**
DAYTON, OH
(11–0)
S. 6 GEORGETOWN
S.13 MONMOUTH*
S.20 ROBERT MORRIS
S.27 MOREHEAD STATE
O. 4 BUTLER*
O.11 DRAKE
O.18 SAN DIEGO*
O.25 VALPARAISO*
N. 1 EVANSVILLE*
N.15 CAL POLY

**DRAKE**
DES MOINES, IA
(8–3)
S. 6 MORNINGSIDE
S.13 ST. NORBERT*
S.20 S. FLORIDA
S.27 VALPARAISO
O. 4 WAYNE STATE
O.11 DAYTON*
O.18 EVANSVILLE*
O.25 SAN DIEGO
N. 1 AURORA*
N. 8 BUTLER
N.15 NORTHWESTERN*

**EVANSVILLE**
EVANSVILLE, IND.
(5–5)
S.13 CUMBERLAND*
S.20 QUINCY*
S.27 MCKENDREE*
O. 4 SAN DIEGO*
O.11 VALPARAISO
O.18 DRAKE
O.25 BUTLER*
N. 1 DAYTON
N. 8 KY. WESLEYAN*
N.15 MOREHEAD ST.

**SAN DIEGO**
SAN DIEGO, CALIF.
(4–6)
S. 6 AZUSA PACIFIC*
S.13 ST. MARY'S (CA)*
S.20 REDLANDS*
S.27 CAL LUTHERAN
O. 4 EVANSVILLE
O.11 BUTLER*
O.18 DAYTON
O.25 DRAKE*
N. 1 VALPARAISO
N. 8 WHITTIER
N.15 WAGNER*

**VALPARAISO**
VALPARAISO, IND.
(4–6)
S. 6 HOPE*
S.13 ALMA
S.20 MOREHEAD ST.
S.27 DRAKE*
O. 4 YALE@
O.11 EVANSVILLE*
O.18 BUTLER
O.25 DAYTON
N. 1 SAN DIEGO*
N. 8 AURORA
@ SOLDIER FIELD, CHICAGO

# 1997 college schedules

*** Home game**

## SOUTHERN

### APPALACHIAN ST.
BOONE, N.C.
(7–4)
S. 6 CLEMSON
S.20 E. KENTUCKY*
S.27 THE CITADEL
O. 4 E. TENN. ST.*
O.11 FURMAN
O.18 GA. SOUTHERN*
O.25 WOFFORD
N. 1 TENN.-CHATT.*
N. 8 VMI
N.15 W. CAROLINA*
N.22 LIBERTY*

### THE CITADEL
CHARLESTON, S.C.
(4–7)
S. 6 MORGAN STATE*
S.12 SOUTH FLORIDA*
S.20 W. CAROLINA
S.27 APPALACHIAN ST.*
O. 4 AIR FORCE
O.11 E. TENN. ST.
O.18 FURMAN*
O.25 GA. SOUTHERN
N. 1 WOFFORD*
N. 8 TENN.-CHATT.
N.15 VMI*

### E. TENNESSEE ST.
JOHNSON CITY, TENN.
(10–3)
A.28 CHARLESTON SOU.*
S. 6 ELON*
S.13 JAMES MADISON
S.27 W. CAROLINA*
O. 4 APPALACHIAN ST.
O.11 THE CITADEL*
O.25 FURMAN
N. 1 GA. SOUTHERN*
N. 8 WOFFORD
N.15 TENN.-CHATT.*
N.22 VMI

### FURMAN
GREENVILLE, S.C.
(9–4)
S. 6 SAMFORD
S.13 S.C. STATE
S.27 VMI*
O. 4 W. CAROLINA
O.11 APPALACHIAN ST.*
O.18 THE CITADEL
O.25 E. TENN. ST.*
N. 1 ELON*
N. 8 GA. SOUTHERN
N.15 WOFFORD*
N.22 TENN.-CHATT.

### GEORGIA SOUTHERN
STATESBORO, GA.
(4–7)
A.30 VALDOSTA ST.*
S. 6 WM. & MARY*
S.20 WOFFORD
S.27 TENN.-CHATT.*
O. 4 VMI
O.11 W. CAROLINA*
O.18 APPALACHIAN ST.
O.25 THE CITADEL*
N. 1 E. TENN. ST.
N. 8 FURMAN*
N.15 SOUTH FLORIDA

### TENN.-CHATT.
CHATTANOOGA, TENN.
(3–8)
S. 6 TENNESSEE TECH*
S.13 MIDDLE TENN*
S.27 GA. SOUTHERN
O. 4 WOFFORD*
O.11 VMI
O.18 TENNESSEE ST.*
O.25 W. CAROLINA*
N. 1 APPALACHIAN ST.
N. 8 THE CITADEL*
N.15 E. TENN. ST.
N.22 FURMAN*

### VMI
LEXINGTON, VA
(3–8)
S. 6 WOFFORD
S.13 WM. & MARY*
S.20 RICHMOND
S.27 FURMAN
O. 4 GA. SOUTHERN*
O.11 TENN.-CHATT.*
O.18 NAVY
N. 1 W. CAROLINA
N. 8 APPALACHIAN ST.*
N.15 THE CITADEL
N.22 E. TENN. ST.*

### WESTERN CAROLINA
CULLOWHEE, N.C.
(4–7)
S.13 LIBERTY*
S.20 THE CITADEL*
S.27 E. TENN. ST.
O. 4 FURMAN*
O.11 GA. SOUTHERN
O.18 WOFFORD*
O.25 TENN.-CHATT.
N. 1 VMI*
N. 8 ELON COLLEGE
N.15 APPALACHIAN ST.
N.22 SAMFORD

### WOFFORD COLLEGE
SPARTANBURG, S.C.
(6–5)
S. 6 VMI*
S.20 GA. SOUTHERN*
O. 4 TENN.-CHATT.
O.11 MOREHEAD ST.
O.18 W. CAROLINA
O.25 APPALACHIAN ST.*
N. 1 THE CITADEL
N. 8 E. TENN. ST.*
N.15 FURMAN
N.22 CHARLESTON SO.*

## SOUTHLAND

### JACKSONVILLE STATE
JACKSONVILLE, ALA.
(1–9)
S. 6 SW MISSOURI ST.*
S.13 SAM HOUSTON ST.
S.20 UAB
S.27 McNEESE ST.*
O. 4 MIDDLE TENN.
O.11 S.F. AUSTIN
O.25 NICHOLLS ST.*
N. 1 SAMFORD
N. 8 NORTHWESTERN ST.
N.15 S.W. TEXAS ST.
N.22 TROY STATE.

### McNEESE STATE
LAKE CHARLES, LA.
(3–8)
S. 6 SE OKLAHOMA*
S.13 SW MISSOURI
S.20 NORTHERN IOWA*
S.27 JACKSONVILLE ST.
O. 4 ARKANSAS TECH*
O.11 NORTHWESTERN ST.*
O.25 S.F. AUSTIN
N. 1 SAM HOUSTON ST.*
N. 8 S.W. TEXAS ST.
N.15 TROY STATE*
N.22 NICHOLLS ST.

### NICHOLLS STATE
THIBODAUX, LA.
(8–4)
A.30 NE LOUISIANA
S. 6 S. ILLINOIS*
S.20 TROY STATE*
S.27 NORTHWESTERN ST.
O. 4 SAMFORD*
O.11 S.W. TEXAS ST.*
O.18 SAM HOUSTON ST.
O.25 JACKSONVILLE ST.
N. 1 SOUTHERN
N.15 S.F. AUSTIN
N.22 McNEESE STATE*

### NORTHWESTERN ST.
NATCHITOCHES, LA.
(6–5)
S. 6 SOUTHERN
S.13 HENDERSON ST.*
S.27 NICHOLLS ST.*
O. 4 NE LOUISIANA
O.11 McNEESE STATE
O.18 S.W. TEXAS ST.*
O.25 ARKANSAS TECH*
N. 1 TROY STATE
N. 8 JACKSONVILLE ST.*
N.15 SAM HOUSTON ST.
N.20 S.F. AUSTIN*

### SAM HOUSTON ST.
HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS
(4–7)
A.30 ANGELO STATE*
S. 6 TEXAS A&M
S.13 JACKSONVILLE ST.*
S.20 ARK.-MONTICELLO*
S.27 TEXAS SOUTHERN
O.11 TROY STATE
O.18 NICHOLLS ST.*
N. 1 McNEESE STATE
N. 8 S.F. AUSTIN*
N.15 NORTHWESTERN ST.*
N.22 S.W. TEXAS ST.

### STEPHEN F. AUSTIN
NACOGDOCHES, TEXAS
(7–4)
A.28 W. TEXAS A&M*
S. 6 DELTA STATE*
S.13 MONTANA
S.27 NEW HAMPSHIRE*
O.11 JACKSONVILLE ST.*
O.18 TROY STATE
O.25 McNEESE STATE*
N. 1 S.W. TEXAS ST.*
N. 8 SAM HOUSTON ST.
N.15 NICHOLLS ST.*
N.20 NORTHWESTERN ST.

### SW TEXAS STATE
SAN MARCOS, TEXAS
(5–6)
S. 4 SACRAMENTO ST.*
S.13 HOFSTRA
S.20 MONTANA ST.*
O. 4 TROY STATE*
O.11 NICHOLLS ST.
O.18 NORTHWESTERN ST.
O.25 SOUTHERN UTAH*
N. 1 S.F. AUSTIN
N. 8 McNEESE STATE*
N.15 JACKSONVILLE ST.
N.22 SAM HOUSTON ST.*

### TROY STATE
TROY, AL.
(12–1)
A.30 ALCORN ST.*
S. 6 E. KENTUCKY*
S.13 ALABAMA ST.
S.20 NICHOLLS ST.
O. 4 SW TEXAS ST.
O.11 SAM HOUSTON ST.*
O.18 S.F. AUSTIN ST.*
O.25 SAMFORD
N. 1 NORTHWESTERN ST.*
N.15 McNEESE ST.
N.22 JACKSONVILLE ST.*

## SWAC

### ALABAMA STATE
MONTGOMERY, ALA.
(3–8)
A.31 JACKSON ST.
S. 6 TEXAS SOUTHERN
S.13 TROY STATE*
S.20 ALCORN ST.*
S.27 ARK.-PINE BLUFF
O. 4 SOUTHERN*
O.18 PRAIRIE VIEW*
O.25 ALABAMA A&M
N. 8 GRAMBLING*
N.15 MISS. VALLEY ST.
N.27 TUSKEGEE*

### ALCORN STATE
LORMAN, MISS.
(4–7)
A.30 TROY STATE
S. 6 GRAMBLING*
S.13 W. ILLINOIS*
S.20 ALABAMA ST.
S.27 SAMFORD*
O. 4 ARK.-PINE BLUFF@
O.11 PRAIRIE VIEW*
O.18 TEXAS SOUTHERN
O.25 SOUTHERN
N. 8 MISS. VALLEY*
N.22 JACKSON ST.
@LITTLE ROCK

### ARK.-PINE BLUFF
PINE BLUFF, ARK..
(5–5)
A.30 LANE@
S. 6 MISS. VALLEY*
S.13 SOUTHERN
S.20 HOWARD%
S.27 ALABAMA ST.*
O. 4 ALCORN ST.*@
O.11 TEXAS SOUTHERN*
O.18 GRAMBLING#
O.25 LANGSTON*
N. 1 JACKSON ST.
N. 8 PRAIRIE VIEW A&M
@LITTLE ROCK
%ST. LOUIS
#SHREVEPORT

### GRAMBLING
GRAMBLING, LA.
(3–8)
S. 6 ALCORN ST.
S.20 LANGSTON
S.27 HAMPTON
O. 4 PRAIRIE VIEW
O.11 MISS. VALLEY*
O.18 ARK-PINE BLUFF#
O.25 JACKSON ST.
N. 1 TEXAS SOUTHERN*
N. 8 ALABAMA ST.
N.15 N. CAROLINA A&T*
N.29 SOUTHERN
#SHREVEPORT

### JACKSON STATE
JACKSON, MISS.
(10–2)
A.31 ALABAMA ST.
S. 6 HOWARD*
S.13 TENNESSEE ST.
S.20 FLORIDA A&M
S.27 MISS. VALLEY ST.*
O. 4 TEXAS SOUTHERN
O.18 SOUTHERN*
O.25 GRAMBLING*
N. 1 ARK.-PINE BLUFF*
N.15 PRAIRIE VIEW
N.22 ALCORN ST.*

### MISSISSIPPI VALLEY
ITTA BENA, MISS.
(7–4)
A.30 SOUTHERN@
S. 6 ARK-PINE BLUFF
S.20 ALABAMA A&M*
S.27 JACKSON ST.
O.11 GRAMBLING
O.18 LANE
O.25 TEXAS SOUTHERN*
N. 1 PRAIRIE VIEW
N. 8 ALCORN ST.
N.15 ALABAMA ST.*
@ DALLAS, TEXAS

### PRAIRIE VIEW A&M
PRAIRIE VIEW, TEXAS
(0–11)
A.30 TEXAS SOUTHERN
S.13 LANGSTON*
S.20 SOUTHERN
S.27 SUL ROSS
O. 4 GRAMBLING
O.11 ALCORN ST.
O.18 ALABAMA ST.
O.25 CENTRAL ST.
N. 1 MISS. VALLEY*
N. 8 ARK.-PINE BLUFF*
N.15 JACKSON ST.*

### SOUTHERN
BATON ROUGE, LA.
(7–4)
A.30 MISS. VALLEY ST.@
S. 6 N'WESTERN ST.*
S.13 ARK.-PINE BLUFF*
S.20 PRAIRIE VIEW A&M*
O. 4 ALABAMA ST.
O.18 JACKSON ST.
O.25 ALCORN ST.*
N. 1 NICHOLLS ST.*
N. 8 FLORIDA A&M
N.15 TEXAS SOUTHERN
N.29 GRAMBLING
@ DALLAS, TEXAS

### TEXAS SOUTHERN
HOUSTON, TEXAS
(7–4)
A.30 PRAIRIE VIEW*
S. 6 ALABAMA ST.*
S.20 MORGAN ST.
S.27 SAM HOUSTON ST.*
O. 4 JACKSON ST.*
O.11 ARK.-PINE BLUFF
O.18 ALCORN ST.*
O.25 MISS. VALLEY ST.
N. 1 GRAMBLING
N. 8 LANE*
N.15 SOUTHERN*

## I-AA INDEPENDENTS

### AUSTIN PEAY
CLARKSVILLE, TENN.
(1–10)
S. 6 MOREHEAD ST.
S.13 SAMFORD*
S.20 WESTERN KY.
S.27 EASTERN KY.
O. 4 TENNESSEE TECH*
O.11 MURRAY ST.
O.25 E. ILLINOIS
N. 1 SE MISSOURI*
N. 8 MIDDLE TENN.
N.15 TENN.-MARTIN*

### BUFFALO
BUFFALO, NEW YORK
(8–3)
A.30 LOCK HAVEN*
S. 6 ILLINOIS ST.
S.13 DELAWARE ST.*
S.20 OHIO
S.27 WEST CHESTER U.*
O. 4 CONNECTICUT
O.11 YOUNGSTOWN ST.
O.18 MASSACHUSETTS*
O.25 HOFSTRA*
N. 8 MAINE*
N.15 VILLANOVA

### CAL POLY
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIF.
(5–6)
S. 6 UC DAVIS
S.13 W. MONTANA*
S.20 W. NEW MEXICO*
S.27 SAINT MARY'S (CA)
O. 4 NEW MEXICO ST.
O.11 SIMON FRASER*
O.25 NORTHERN IOWA*
N. 1 LIBERTY
N. 8 MONTANA ST.
N.15 DAYTON*
N.22 SACRAMENTO ST.*

### CHARLESTON SOUTHERN
CHARLESTON, S.C.
(2–8)
A.28 EAST TENN. ST.
S. 6 S. C. STATE
S.13 PRESBYTERIAN*
S.20 TUSCULUM*
S.27 CATAWBA*
O.11 NEWBERRY
O.18 SUE BENNETT*
O.25 LIBERTY*
N. 1 S. FLORIDA
N. 8 MOREHEAD ST.
N.22 WOFFORD

### HOFSTRA
HEMPSTEAD, N.Y.
(5–6)
S. 6 BOSTON*
S.13 SW TEXAS ST.*
S.20 CONNECTICUT*
S.27 YOUNGSTOWN ST.
O. 4 RHODE ISLAND
O.11 NEW HAMPSHIRE
O.18 LEHIGH*
O.25 BUFFALO
N. 1 MASSACHUSETTS
N.15 LIBERTY
N.22 MAINE*

### LIBERTY
LYNCHBURG, VA.
(5–6)
S. 6 GLENVILLE ST.*
S.13 W. CAROLINA
S.27 DELAWARE ST.
O. 4 ELON*
O.11 HAMPTON*
O.25 CHARLESTON SO.
N. 1 CAL POLY*
N. 8 NORFOLK ST.
N.15 HOFSTRA*
N.22 APPALACHIAN ST.

### MOREHEAD STATE
MOREHEAD, KY.
(6–4)
S. 6 AUSTIN PEAY*
S.20 VALPARAISO*
S.27 DAYTON*
O. 4 SOUTH FLORIDA
O.11 WOFFORD*
O.25 ST. JOSEPH'S - IND.
N. 1 WESTERN KY.
N. 8 CHARLESTON SOU.*
N.15 EVANSVILLE*

### SAMFORD
BIRMINGHAM, ALA.
(6–5)
S. 6 FURMAN*
S.13 AUSTIN PEAY
S.20 TENNESSEE TECH*
S.27 ALCORN STATE
O. 4 NICHOLLS ST.
O.11 CENTRAL FLORIDA.
O.25 TROY STATE*
N. 1 JACKSONVILLE ST.*
N. 8 TENN.-MARTIN
N.15 ELON*
N.22 W. CAROLINA*

### SOUTHERN UTAH
CEDAR CITY, UT.
(4–7)
A.30 ILLINOIS STATE*
S. 6 FORT LEWIS*
S.13 WEBER STATE
S.20 ARKANSAS ST.
S.27 MONTANA TECH*
O. 4 W. ILLINOIS*
O.18 IDAHO STATE
O.25 SW TEXAS
N. 1 UC DAVIS*
N. 8 NORTHERN IOWA
N.15 ST. MARY'S

### ST. MARY'S
MORAGA, CALIF.
(7–3)
S. 6 NORTHEASTERN*
S.13 SAN DIEGO
S.20 MONTANA
S.27 CAL POLY SLO*
O. 4 HUMBOLDT ST.
O.11 PORTLAND ST.
O.18 CHAPMAN
O.25 UC DAVIS*
N. 8 BUCKNELL*
N.15 S. UTAH*

### WESTERN KENTUCKY
BOWLING GREEN, KY.
(7–4)
A.28 TENN.-MARTIN
S. 6 MURRAY STATE*
S.13 E. KENTUCKY
S.20 AUSTIN PEAY*
O. 4 UAB
O.25 S. ILLINOIS
N. 1 MOREHEAD ST.*
N. 8 INDIANA ST.

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**SELECT ONE PLAYER FROM EACH GROUP • PICK TWO TEAMS FOR DEFENSE**

### QB - Group 1

1 ❑ Ryan Clement - Miami
2 ❑ Duante Culpepper - C. Fla.
3 ❑ Chad Hutchinson - Stan
4 ❑ Peyton Manning - Tenn
5 ❑ Donovan Mcnabb - Syr
6 ❑ Corey Sauter - Minn
7 ❑ Matt Sherman - Iowa
8 ❑ Herb Tyler - LSU

### QB - Group 2

1 ❑ Tim Couch - Kent
2 ❑ Scott Frost - Neb
3 ❑ John Hessler - Col
4 ❑ Chris Keldorf - UNC
5 ❑ Zebbie Lethridge - TTech
6 ❑ Ron Powlus - ND
7 ❑ Brandon Stewart - A&M
8 ❑ Anthony Wright - USC

### QB - Group 3

1 ❑ James Brown - Texas
2 ❑ Thad Busby - FSU
3 ❑ Dameyune Craig - Aub
4 ❑ Scott Driesbach - Mich
5 ❑ Joe Germaine - OSU
6 ❑ Brock Huard - Wash
7 ❑ Doug Johnson - Fla
8 ❑ Cade McNown - UCLA

### RB - Group 4

1 ❑ Darren Davis - Ia St
2 ❑ Ron Dayne - Wis
3 ❑ Jerod Douglas - Bay
4 ❑ DeAngelo Evans - Neb
5 ❑ Pepe Pearson - OSU
6 ❑ Tremayne Stephens - NCST
7 ❑ Herchell Troutman -Col
8 ❑ Fred Taylor - Fla

### RB - Group 5

1 ❑ Curtis Enis - PSU
2 ❑ Ricky Williams - Tex
3 ❑ Kevin Faulk - LSU
4 ❑ Robert Edwards - UGA
5 ❑ Clarence Williams - Mich
6 ❑ Dee Feaster - FSU
7 ❑ Edgerrin James - Miami
8 ❑ Scott Harley - ECU

### RB - Group 6

1 ❑ Ahman Green - Neb
2 ❑ Skip Hicks - UCLA
3 ❑ Sedrick Irvin - MSU
4 ❑ Ken Oxendine - VT
5 ❑ Demond Parker - Okla
6 ❑ Dennis Riddle - Ala
7 ❑ Omari Walker - BC
8 ❑ Amos Zereoue - WVU

### WR - Group 7

1 ❑ Jacquez Green - Fla
2 ❑ Marcus Nash - Tenn
3 ❑ Peter Warrick - FSU
4 ❑ David Saunders - WVU
5 ❑ Chris Anderson - Col
6 ❑ Stephen Alexzander - OK
7 ❑ Peerless Price - Tenn
8 ❑ Tyrone Goodson - Aub

### WR - Group 8

1 ❑ Zola Davis - S Car
2 ❑ Tim Dwight - Iowa
3 ❑ Quinton Spotwood - Syr
4 ❑ Jammi German - Miami
5 ❑ David Boston - OSU
6 ❑ Larry Foster - LSU
7 ❑ Tai Streets - Mich
8 ❑ Jay Soward - USC

### WR - Group 9

1 ❑ Billy Miller - USC
2 ❑ Nigea Carter - Mi St
3 ❑ Tony Simmons - Wis
4 ❑ Ryan Thelwell - Minn
5 ❑ Bobby Shaw - Cal
6 ❑ Germaine Crowell - UVA
7 ❑ Octavious Barnes - UNC
8 ❑ Jim Turner - Syr

**TEAM DEFENSE** - Pick any two teams from the following conferences: ACC, Big East, Big 10, Big 12, SEC, Pac 10.

1. _____ 2. _____

**SCORING SYSTEM**

| QB's | pts | RB/WR | pts | Defense | pts | Pts. allowed | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TD pass | 6 | TD | 6 | Fumble | 3 | 0-2 | 20 |
| Pass/25 yds | 1 | 25 yds | 2 | Interception | 3 | 3-10 | 10 |
| Rush/10 yds | 1 | Bonus/100+yds | 2 | Sack | 2 | 11-21 | 5 |

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❑ **THREE TEAM ENTRY** ($29.95 EA.) ENCLOSED IS MY PAYMENT OF .....$89.85

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____ APT. # _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
DAYTIME PHONE (_____) _____
❑ Check ❑ Visa ❑ MC ❑ AMX Acct. # _____
Signature _____ Exp. Date _____

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# the recruiting report

**compiled by PrepStar**

# TOP 100 INCOMING FRESHMEN

| Rank/Pos./Player | Ht. | Wt. | Speed | Hometown-High School | College |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. DE David Warren | 6–5 | 240 | 4.60 | Tyler-J. Tyler, TX | Florida State |
| 2. LB La Var Arrington | 6–4 | 225 | 4.50 | Pittsburgh-North Hills, PA | Penn State |
| 3. DE Andre Carter | 6–4 | 245 | 4.55 | San Jose-Oak Grove, CA | California |
| 4. QB Randy Fasani | 6–3 | 215 | 4.70 | Granite Bay-Del Oro, CA | Stanford |
| 5. LB Alex Brown | 6–3 | 230 | 4.50 | White Springs-Hamilton Co., FL | Florida |
| 6. OL Kareem McKenzie | 6–6 | 330 | 5.20 | Willingboro, NJ | Penn State |
| 7. WR Steve Shipp | 6–2 | 190 | 4.40 | Charlotte-W. Charlotte, NC | Florida |
| 8. DB Billy-Dee Greenwood | 6–2 | 185 | 4.40 | Stamford-K.L.H.T., CT | North Carolina |
| 9. QB Jesse Palmer | 6–3 | 212 | 4.60 | Nepean-St. Pius, ON | Florida |
| 10. ATH Rod Perry | 5–10 | 180 | 4.40 | Irvine-Mater Dei, CA | USC |
| 11. ATH Domonique Williams | 6–0 | 205 | 4.43 | Upper Marlboro-Gwynn Park, MD | North Carolina |
| 12. RB Levron Williams | 6–3 | 195 | 4.57 | Evansville-Bosse, IN | Indiana |
| 13. RB Jamal Lewis | 6–1 | 220 | 4.40 | Atlanta-Douglass, GA | Tennessee |
| 14. RB Travis Minor | 6–1 | 190 | 4.50 | Baton Rouge-Catholic, LA | Florida State |
| 15. WR Ken-Yon Rambo | 6–2 | 185 | 4.40 | Long Beach-Poly, CA | Ohio State |
| 16. WR Brian Scott | 6–4 | 190 | 4.50 | Darlington, SC | South Carolina |
| 17. OL Terrence Metcalf | 6–3 | 286 | 4.90 | Clarksdale, MS | Ole Miss |
| 18. LB Roylin Bradley | 6–2 | 222 | 4.40 | Lamarque, TX | Texas A&M |
| 19. DL Tyrone Robertson | 6–5 | 280 | 4.80 | Danville-G. Washington, VA | Virginia Tech |
| 20. QB Romaro Miller | 6–1 | 190 | 4.50 | Shannon, MS | Ole Miss |
| 21. DL Kenny Smith | 6–5 | 290 | 5.00 | Meridian, MS | Alabama |
| 22. DB Andre Lott | 6–1 | 185 | 4.50 | Memphis-Melrose, TN | Tennessee |
| 23. WR Chris Chambers | 6–1 | 180 | 4.50 | Bedford, OH | Wisconsin |
| 24. OL Cosey Coleman | 6–5 | 320 | 5.20 | Clarkston-SW Dekalb, GA | Tennessee |
| 25. QB Tim Olmstead | 6–2 | 196 | 4.65 | Binghampton, NY | Florida |
| 26. TE Carver Donaldson | 6–6 | 255 | 4.80 | Mulberry-Kathleen, FL | Florida State |
| 27. LB Travis Carroll | 6–4 | 230 | 4.60 | Jacksonville-Bolles, FL | Alabama |
| 28. LB Grant Irons | 6–5 | 225 | 4.60 | The Woodlands-McCullough, TX | Notre Dame |
| 29. OL Leonard Davis | 6–5 | 350 | 5.10 | Wortham, TX | Texas |
| 30. OL Lance Clelland | 6–6 | 285 | 5.10 | Reistertown-McDonough, MD | Northwestern |
| 31. RB Jasper Sanks | 6–2 | 215 | 4.50 | Columbus-Carver, GA | Georgia |
| 32. RB Antoine Womack | 6–0 | 210 | 4.30 | Hampton-Phoebus, VA | Virginia |
| 33. RB Cooper Rego | 5–9 | 185 | 4.40 | Montvale-St. Joe's, NJ | Notre Dame |
| 34. WR David Aaron | 6–4 | 186 | 4.50 | Marshall, TX | Texas |
| 35. DB Antuan Simmons | 5–11 | 185 | 4.40 | Sacramento-Valley, CA | USC |
| 36. OL Victor Rogers | 6–6 | 300 | 5.10 | Federal Way-Decatur, WA | Colorado |
| 37. DB Joe Walker | 6–0 | 175 | 4.50 | Galena-North Shore, TX | Texas |
| 38. DT Maurice Williams | 6–5 | 245 | 4.77 | Detroit-Pershing, Mi | Michigan |
| 39. DE Jack Bloom | 6–4 | 235 | 4.50 | Toms River-South, NJ | Rutgers |
| 40. QB Bobby Newcombe | 6–0 | 185 | 4.50 | Albuquerque-Highland, NM | Nebraska |
| 41. QB Ed Stansbury | 6–2 | 225 | 4.60 | El Paso-Ervin, TX | UCLA |
| 42. RB Malaefou MacKenzie | 6–0 | 210 | 4.38 | Mission Viejo-Cap Valley, CA | USC |
| 43. DE Rocky Bright | 6–4 | 235 | 4.70 | Tulsa-B.T. Washington, OK | Oklahoma |
| 44. RB Darnell McDonald | 5–11 | 190 | 4.50 | Englewood-Cherry Creek, CO | Texas |
| 45. TE Alvan Morrow | 6–5 | 240 | 4.70 | St. Louis, Mo | Florida State |
| 46. DE Corey Callens | 6–3 | 258 | 4.60 | Jenks, OK | Oklahoma |
| 47. FS Deon Grant | 6–3 | 190 | 4.50 | Augusta-Josey, GA | Tennessee |
| 48. LB Ron Graham | 6–3 | 240 | 4.65 | Pittsburgh-Penn Hills, PA | Penn State |
| 49. OL Tam Hopkins | 6–5 | 315 | 5.30 | Winter Park-Lake Howell, FL | Ohio State |
| 50. DB James Whitley | 6–0 | 180 | 4.50 | Norfolk-Norview, VA | Michigan |
| 51. OL Jason Brooks | 6–4 | 270 | 5.10 | Cleveland-St. Ignatius, OH | Michigan |
| 52. RB Tony Driver | 6–3 | 205 | 4.40 | Louisville-Male, KY | Notre Dame |
| 53. DB Derrick Gibson | 6–2 | 190 | 4.60 | Miami-Killian, FL | Florida State |
| 54. WR Daryl Jones | 5–10 | 170 | 4.38 | Dallas-Carter, TX | Miami |
| 55. QB Kenny Kelly | 6–3 | 188 | 4.57 | Tampa-Catholic, FL | Miami |
| 56. WR Reggie Germany | 6–1 | 195 | 4.50 | Hazelwood-East, MO | Ohio State |
| 57. QB Eric Crouch | 6–0 | 190 | 4.40 | Millard-North, NE | Nebraska |
| 58. ATH Cedric Cormier | 5–11 | 175 | 4.30 | Houston-North Shore, TX | Colorado |
| 59. WR Kahlil Hill | 6–3 | 185 | 4.50 | Iowa City, IA | Iowa |
| 60. RB Travis Henry | 5–10 | 212 | 4.50 | Frostproof, FL | Tennessee |
| 61. LB Napoleon Harris | 6–4 | 215 | 4.60 | Dixmoor-Thornton, IL | Northwestern |
| 62. RB Ravon Anderson | 5–11 | 190 | 4.32 | Hoboken, NJ | North Carolina |
| 63. WR Herman Banks | 6–0 | 164 | 4.40 | Hartselle, AL | Auburn |
| 64. QB Daniel Cobb | 6–5 | 205 | 4.59 | Marietta-Harrison, GA | Georgia |
| 65. DB Renaldo Hill | 5–11 | 170 | 4.50 | Detroit-Chadsey, MI | Michigan State |
| **Rank/Pos./Player** | **Ht.** | **Wt.** | **Speed** | **Hometown-High School** | **College** |
| 66. LB Marco Hutchinson | 6–2 | 215 | 4.70 | Rock Hill-Northwestern, SC | South Carolina |
| 67. LB Jason Ott | 6–4 | 235 | 4.70 | Cincinnati-Elder, OH | Ohio State |
| 68. DE Jabari Holloway | 6–4 | 235 | 4.75 | Tyrone-Sandy Creek, GA | Notre Dame |
| 69. OL Kurt Vollers | 6–7 | 275 | 4.80 | Anaheim-Servite, CA | Notre Dame |
| 70. DL Derrick Jones | 6–3 | 265 | 4.95 | Pt. Jefferson-Comsewouge, NY | Maryland |
| 71. LB Kurt Anderson | 6–5 | 230 | 4.90 | Glenbrook, IL | Michigan |
| 72. WR Bruce Branch | 6–1 | 180 | 4.40 | Richmond-Huguenot, VA | Penn State |
| 73. RB Patrick McCall | 5–10 | 185 | 4.40 | Carson, CA | Michigan |
| 74. DE Kyle Vanden Bosch | 6–4 | 235 | 4.60 | Larchwood-W. Lyon, IA | Nebraska |
| 75. WR Robert Williams | 6–4 | 215 | 4.50 | Dallas-Bishop Lynch, TX | Miami |
| 76. OL Neely Page | 6–4 | 280 | 5.10 | Aiken, SC | Clemson |
| 77. DL Guenter Kryszon | 6–4 | 250 | 4.90 | Clark-Johnson, NJ | Georgia Tech |
| 78. RB Eric Gooden | 6–3 | 215 | 4.50 | Midwest City, OK | Kansas State |
| 79. DL Gerard Warren | 6–4 | 295 | 4.80 | Lake Butler-Union Co., FL | Florida |
| 80. DE Jamal Reynolds | 6–4 | 240 | 4.65 | Aiken, SC | Florida State |
| 81. ATH Antwaan Randle El | 5–11 | 175 | 4.40 | Riverdale-Thornton, IL | Indiana |
| 82. DB John Norman | 6–2 | 180 | 4.55 | Midland-Lee, TX | Texas Tech |
| 83. QB Marques Tuiasosopo | 6–1 | 200 | 4.50 | Woodinville, WA | Washington |
| 84. ATH Nate Wright | 6–0 | 170 | 4.50 | San Diego-Pt. Loma, CA | Colorado |
| 85. RB Derek Combs | 6–2 | 180 | 4.47 | Grove City, OH | Ohio State |
| 86. OL Luke Nichols | 6–5 | 295 | 5.20 | Beaumont-Kelly, TX | Baylor |
| 87. OL Josh Jakubowski | 6–6 | 335 | 5.30 | Schofield-Everest, WI | Wisconsin |
| 88. LB Deangelo Lloyd | 6–6 | 220 | 4.60 | Charlotte-Independence, NC | Tennessee |
| 89. ATH Austin Kemp | 6–3 | 210 | 4.55 | Brentwood Academy, TN | Tennessee |
| 90. ATH Robert Jackson | 6–1 | 200 | 4.50 | Corvallis-Cresent Valley, OR | Illinois |
| 91. LB Yubrenal Isabelle | 6–2 | 218 | 4.50 | Bluefield, WV | Virginia |
| 92. TE Darnell Sanders | 6–6 | 235 | 4.50 | Warrensville Hts., OH | Ohio State |
| 93. LB Ty Gregorak | 6–3 | 250 | 4.88 | Spokane-West Valley, WA | Colorado |
| 94. OL Michael Barfield | 6–5 | 270 | 5.00 | Dothan-Northview, AL | Alabama |
| 95. DB Ife Ohalete | 6–2 | 205 | 4.60 | Los Alamitos, CA | USC |
| 96. WR Julius McMillan | 5–11 | 170 | 4.30 | Altus, OK | Kansas State |
| 97. DL Muskingum Barnes | 6–2 | 245 | 4.80 | Moss Point, MS | LSU |
| 98. DL Thomas Pittman | 6–4 | 265 | 4.89 | Reserve-E. St. John, LA | Auburn |
| 99. DB James Boyd | 6–1 | 195 | 4.40 | Chesapeake-Deep Creek, VA | Penn State |
| 100. RB Demontray Carter | 5–10 | 185 | 4.40 | Pensacola, FL | Auburn |

# NEXT 250 BY POSITION

## QUARTERBACKS

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Spencer Brinton | 6–5 | 210 | 4.75 | Temecula Valley, CA | San Diego State |
| Greg Cicero | 6–4 | 185 | 4.70 | Anaheim-Servite, CA | Texas |
| Meiko Collier | 6–2 | 228 | 4.60 | Cordele-Crisp Co., GA | Auburn |
| Woodrow Dantzler | 5–11 | 195 | 4.65 | Orangeburg-Wilkinson, SC | Clemson |
| Rohan Davey | 6–3 | 220 | 4.60 | Hialeah-Miami Lakes, FL | LSU |
| Phillip Deas | 6–1 | 190 | 4.80 | Bossier City-Evangel, LA | North Carolina |
| James Dougherty | 6–4 | 185 | 4.65 | Edwardsville, IL | Missouri |
| Lorenzo Guess | 6–3 | 190 | 4.60 | Wayne, MI | Michigan State |
| Joey Harrington | 6–4 | 194 | 4.72 | Portland-Central Catholic, OR | Oregon |
| Zak Kustock | 6–2 | 190 | 4.55 | Orland Park-Sandburg, IL | Notre Dame |
| Scott McEwan | 6–3 | 196 | 4.65 | Thousand Oaks, CA | UCLA |
| Drew Miller | 6–1 | 190 | 4.70 | Tacoma-Lakes, WA | BYU |
| Labronne Mitchell | 6–3 | 205 | 4.40 | Marietta, GA | Georgia |
| Austin Moherman | 6–5 | 200 | 4.70 | Mission Viejo-Capistrano Valley, CA | Ohio State |
| Craig Nall | 6–3 | 207 | 4.82 | Alexandria, LA | LSU |
| David Priestley | 6–4 | 200 | 4.77 | Cypress-Brethern Christian, CA | Ohio State |
| Jarrod Reese | 6–3 | 195 | 4.70 | Seminole, OK | Oklahoma |
| Matt Schobel | 6–4 | 220 | 4.60 | Columbus, TX | Texas A&M |
| J.K. Scott | 6–3 | 200 | 4.90 | Burbank-Burroughs, CA | Washington |
| B.J. Tiger | 6–3 | 195 | 4.50 | Tulsa-B.T. Washington, OK | Oklahoma State |
| Madei Williams | 6–3 | 196 | 4.70 | Pittsburgh-Woodland Hills, PA | Syracuse |

## RUNNING BACKS

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Damien Anderson | 5–11 | 195 | 4.50 | Wilmington, IL | Northwestern |
| Tommy Banks | 6–0 | 242 | 4.55 | West Monroe, LA | LSU |
| Damion Barton | 5–11 | 180 | 4.30 | Corona-Centennial, CA | Colorado |
| Ladell Betts | 5–11 | 200 | 4.50 | Blue Springs, MO | Iowa |
| William Blocker | 5–11 | 210 | 4.43 | San Bernardino-Pacific, CA | Arizona |
| Correll Buckhalter | 6–2 | 210 | 4.50 | Mt. Olive, MS | Nebraska |
| Adam Cox | 6–1 | 215 | 4.47 | Jasper-Walker, AL | Alabama |
| Ali Culpepper | 5–11 | 215 | 4.30 | Baltimore-Dunbar, MD | Syracuse |
| Nejah Davenport | 6–2 | 235 | 4.50 | Miami-Central, FL | Miami |
| Marcus Fields | 6–2 | 185 | 4.60 | Stockton-Stagg, CA | California |
| Davey Ford | 5–11 | 188 | 4.40 | W. Palm Beach-Newman, FL | Florida State |
| Tyree Foreman | 5–11 | 205 | 4.50 | Brinklow-Sherwood, MD | Virginia |
| Derek Homer | 5–11 | 190 | 4.56 | Ft. Knox, KY | Kentucky |

# the recruiting report

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tony Hyppoli | 5–9 | 180 | 4.40 | Miami, FL | Minnesota |
| Harold Jackson | 6–1 | 245 | 4.60 | Wilkes-Barre Gar, PA | N.C. State |
| Ray Jackson | 6–4 | 210 | 4.60 | Indianapolis-Lawrence Central, IN | Michigan |
| Ron Johnson | 5–11 | 205 | 4.40 | Pine Bluff-Watson Chapel, AR | Arkansas |
| Lamont Jordan | 5–11 | 210 | 4.40 | Forestville-Suitland, MD | Maryland |
| Brian Marshall | 6–0 | 200 | 4.50 | Southfield-Rice, MI | Northwestern |
| Dulymus McAllister | 6–1 | 190 | 4.45 | Morton, MS | Ole Miss |
| William McCray | 6–0 | 215 | 4.32 | Jacksonville-Bolles, FL | Florida State |
| Hodges Mitchell | 5–7 | 185 | 4.30 | Dallas-Skyline, TX | Texas |
| Dan Morgan | 6–2 | 210 | 4.40 | Coral Springs-Taravella, FL | Miami |
| Saleem Muhammad | 5–11 | 195 | 4.50 | Pittsburg-Delasalle, CA | California |
| James Mungro | 5–10 | 190 | 4.55 | East Stroudsburg, PA | Syracuse |
| Jason Murray | 6–2 | 235 | 4.50 | Belle Vernon, PA | Notre Dame |
| Sean Penny | 6–2 | 215 | 4.55 | Youngstown-Ursuline, OH | Ohio State |
| Stanley Peters | 5–8 | 170 | 4.38 | Pauls Valley, OK | Oklahoma |
| Chris Ramseur | 6–1 | 211 | 4.60 | Maiden, NC | Tennessee |
| Eric Reese | 5–11 | 185 | 4.40 | Lynwood-St. Anthony's, CA | USC |
| Dominic Rhodes | 5–9 | 190 | 4.40 | Abliene-Cooper, TX | Texas Tech |
| Anthony Saunders | 6–2 | 210 | 4.60 | Greensboro-W. Guilford, NC | North Carolina |
| Jamar Sheppard | 6–1 | 190 | 4.40 | San Francisco-Sacred Heart, CA | California |
| Kevin Sinclair | 5–9 | 200 | 4.55 | Ocean City, NJ | Rutgers |
| Demetrius Smith | 6–2 | 265 | 4.60 | Calumet Park-Richards, IL | Michigan |
| Anthony Thomas | 6–2 | 220 | 4.50 | Winnfield, LA | Michigan |
| Albert Tuipulotu | 6–1 | 220 | 4.45 | San Mateo, CA | Washington |
| Ed Wilder | 6–2 | 250 | 4.60 | Washington-Wilkes, GA | Georgia Tech |
| Antonio Williams | 6–0 | 218 | 4.40 | Tuscaloosa-Central, AL | Alabama |
| Jimmy Williams | 5–11 | 185 | 4.40 | Baton Rouge-Episcopal, LA | Vanderbilt |
| Coy Wire | 6–1 | 205 | 4.50 | Camp Hill-Cedar Cliff, PA | Stanford |
| Travis Zachery | 6–2 | 185 | 4.40 | Marietta, GA | Clemson |

## WIDE RECEIVERS

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Abram Booty | 6–2 | 175 | 4.40 | Shreveport-Evangel, LA | LSU |
| O.J. Conner | 6–3 | 180 | 4.50 | Gary-Westside, IN | Indiana |
| Jeremy Cooper | 6–0 | 170 | 4.50 | Swedsboro-Kingsway, NJ | Syracuse |
| Sam Crenshaw | 6–4 | 200 | 4.50 | Youngstown-Rayen, OH | Penn State |
| Dallas Davis | 5–10 | 165 | 4.40 | Fort Collins, CO | Colorado State |
| Robert Davis | 5–9 | 175 | 4.45 | Shreveport-Evangel, LA | LSU |
| Joey Getherall | 5–9 | 165 | 4.23 | LaPuente-Bishop Amat, CA | Notre Dame |
| Brian Haugabrook | 6–1 | 200 | 4.50 | Wildwood, FL | Florida |
| Ahmad Hawkins | 5–10 | 180 | 4.50 | Hampton, VA | Virginia |
| Roman Hollewell | 5–7 | 155 | 4.45 | Denver-Mullen, CO | Colorado |
| JaWarren Hooker | 5–11 | 165 | 4.30 | Ellensburg, WA | Washington |
| Cody Joyce | 6–1 | 193 | 4.43 | Saugus-Hart, CA | UCLA |
| David Martin | 6–5 | 210 | 4.53 | Norfolk-Norview, VA | Tennessee |
| Maurice Minter | 6–4 | 210 | 4.40 | Ossining, NY | Syracuse |
| Freddie Mitchell, II | 6–0 | 175 | 4.45 | Lakeland-Kathleen, FL | UCLA |
| Robert Morgan | 6–0 | 180 | 4.40 | East Point-Tri Cities, GA | Florida State |
| Brandon Nash | 6–2 | 195 | 4.48 | Los Angeles, CA | Arizona |
| Eric Parker | 6–0 | 163 | 4.43 | Shorewood, IL | Tennessee |
| Jermaine Phillips | 6–2 | 195 | 4.50 | Roswell, GA | Georgia |
| Brian Poli-Dixon | 6–4 | 195 | 4.50 | Tucson-Sabino, AZ | UCLA |
| Patrick Reddick | 5–9 | 180 | 4.42 | Newbury Park, CA | Washington |
| Carlos Spikes | 6–1 | 190 | 4.45 | Tallahassee-N. Fla. Christian, FL | South Carolina |
| Justin Taplin | 6–0 | 180 | 4.50 | Tempe, AZ | Arizona State |
| J.T. Thatcher | 6–1 | 175 | 4.40 | Norman, OK | Oklahoma |
| Reggie Wayne | 6–2 | 190 | 4.50 | Marrero-Ehret, LA | Miami |

## TIGHT ENDS

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jovon Bush | 6–5 | 265 | 4.60 | Hardesville-Jasper Co., SC | Clemson |
| Marlon Davis | 6–7 | 235 | 4.80 | Eastman-Dodge Co., GA | Alabama |
| Joe Domingeaux | 6–5 | 245 | 4.75 | Crowley, LA | LSU |
| Lonnie Ford | 6–3 | 220 | 4.60 | San Diego-Morse, CA | USC |
| John Gilmore | 6–4 | 230 | 4.70 | Wernersville-West Lawn, PA | Penn State |
| Doug Ginapp | 6–4 | 245 | 4.70 | Arlington-Houston, TX | Texas |
| Antoine Harris | 6–4 | 220 | 4.80 | Los Angeles-Loyola, CA | USC |
| Chad Irwin | 6–4 | 230 | 4.79 | Baytown-Lee, TX | Texas |
| Eric James | 6–2 | 225 | 4.60 | Wash-Anacostia, Dc | Maryland |
| Miles Koon | 6–5 | 240 | 4.70 | Flower Mound-Marcus, TX | Colorado |
| Nate Krill | 6–7 | 235 | 4.70 | McLean, VA | Duke |
| Austin Lee | 6–5 | 250 | 4.80 | Coeur d'Alene-Post Falls, ID | Stanford |
| Graham Manley | 6–3 | 220 | 4.80 | Olney-Sherwood, MD | Syracuse |
| Corey Smith | 6–4 | 245 | 4.85 | Galt, CA | California |
| Brandon Stephens | 6–6 | 230 | 4.63 | Logan, UT | BYU |
| John Teasdale | 6–4 | 255 | 4.90 | Kansas City-Rockhurst, MO | Notre Dame |
| John Westra | 6–5 | 235 | 4.80 | Mesa-Red Mountian, AZ | Washington |
| Matt Wright | 6–5 | 240 | 4.87 | Boca Raton-Pine Crest, FL | Stanford |

## OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Braxton Anderson | 6–5 | 270 | 5.00 | Franklin-Simpson, KY | Louisville |
| Ronald Boldin | 6–6 | 270 | 5.10 | Pahokee, FL | Florida State |
| Ben Brown | 6–5 | 275 | 5.00 | Clearwater-Countryside, FL | Florida |
| Joe Collins | 6–8 | 290 | 5.10 | Darien-K.L.H.T., CT | Northwestern |
| Tom Coury | 6–3 | 335 | 5.00 | Tarentum-Highlands, PA | Pitt |
| Jason Cox | 6–5 | 315 | 5.60 | Edgefield-Thurmond, SC | South Carolina |
| Troy Danoff | 6–4 | 280 | 5.00 | Albuquerque-La Cueva, NM | UCLA |
| Todd Davis | 6–5 | 280 | 5.00 | Union, SC | South Carolina |
| Adam Fay | 6–5 | 290 | 5.20 | Bettendorf, IA | Northwestern |
| Andre Guro | 6–3 | 285 | 5.00 | Houston-N. Shore, TX | Colorado |
| DeCoryre Hampton | 6–7 | 325 | 5.00 | Memphis-Westwood, TN | Memphis |
| Kyle Kollmorgen | 6–4 | 275 | 5.20 | Lincoln-Southeast, NE | Nebraska |
| Bryan Kula | 6–4 | 285 | 5.15 | Phoenix-Brophy Prep, AZ | Arizona |
| Lynn Larabee | 6–3 | 245 | 5.00 | Oklahoma City-Western Hts., OK | Oklahoma |
| Matt Lehr | 6–3 | 260 | 5.10 | Woodbridge, VA | Virginia Tech |
| Ben Mast | 6–5 | 275 | 5.00 | Massillon-Washington, OH | Michigan |
| Seth McKinney | 6–4 | 280 | 4.90 | Austin-Westlake, TX | Texas A&M |
| Josh Mitchell | 6–5 | 270 | 5.10 | Doylestown-C. Bucks East, PA | Penn State |
| Todd Mossa | 6–3 | 285 | 5.30 | Darien, CT | Michigan |
| Sean O'Connor | 6–4 | 275 | 4.80 | Morristown, NJ | Syracuse |
| Melvin Paige | 6–5 | 305 | 4.80 | Dillon, SC | South Carolina |
| Josh Parrish | 6–6 | 310 | 5.20 | Westerville-South, OH | Kentucky |
| Scott Peters | 6–3 | 305 | 4.90 | Pleasanton-Amador Valley, CA | Arizona State |
| Mike Pucillo | 6–4 | 275 | 5.10 | Brandon, FL | Auburn |
| David Pugh | 6–3 | 265 | 4.70 | Madison Heights-Amherst Co., VA | Virginia Tech |
| Greg Ransom | 6–3 | 300 | 5.00 | Hamburg-Wallkill, NJ | Penn State |
| Jon Rutherford | 6–3 | 270 | 4.94 | Midwest City, OK | Nebraska |
| Terdell Sands | 6–6 | 280 | 5.00 | Chattanooga-Howard, TN | Tennessee |
| Michael Souza | 6–7 | 290 | 5.20 | Kaneohe-Punahou, HI | Northwestern |
| Erik Strange | 6–4 | 289 | 5.00 | Orlando-Boone, FL | Florida |
| Kenyatta Walker | 6–6 | 285 | 4.95 | Meridian, MS | Florida |
| Langston Walker | 6–7 | 290 | 5.13 | Oakland-O'Dowd, CA | California |
| Mike Wambolt | 6–4 | 285 | 5.20 | New Hall-Hart, CA | Colorado |
| Fred Weary | 6–5 | 260 | 4.95 | Montgomery-Lee, AL | Tennessee |
| Ed Wilkins | 6–5 | 265 | 4.90 | Plainfield, NJ | Miami |
| Ralph Zara | 6–5 | 275 | 4.90 | Tucson, AZ | Arizona State |

## DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rodney Bailey | 6–5 | 260 | 4.90 | Lakewood-St. Edwards, OH | Ohio State |
| Rocky Bernard | 6–3 | 255 | 5.00 | Baytown-Sterling, TX | Texas A&M |
| Chris Brooks | 6–4 | 250 | 4.80 | Newton, TX | Arkansas |
| Derek Burns | 6–6 | 275 | 5.00 | Eden Prairie, MN | Minnesota |
| Kenyon Coleman | 6–5 | 260 | 4.90 | Alta Loma, CA | UCLA |
| Char-Ron Dorsey | 6–7 | 315 | 5.00 | Jacksonville-Bolles, FL | Florida State |
| Jeremy Dox | 6–2 | 275 | 4.90 | St. Paul-Cretin-Derham Hall, MN | Wisconsin |
| Jarvis Green | 6–3 | 235 | 4.60 | Donaldsonville, LA | LSU |
| Aaron Habermann | 6–3 | 265 | 4.80 | Hartland-Arrowhead, WI | Wisconsin |
| Marcus Hoover | 6–4 | 245 | 4.80 | Philadelphia-Abington, PA | Stanford |
| Johnny Jackson | 6–3 | 260 | 4.90 | San Diego-St. Augustine, CA | Colorado |
| Ken Jackson | 6–4 | 305 | 4.90 | New Orleans-St.Aug, LA | Miami |
| Lonnie Madison | 6–4 | 235 | 4.70 | The Woodlands-Mccullough, TX | Texas A&M |
| Damien Mallery | 6–4 | 250 | 4.60 | Syracuse-Henniger, NY | Syracuse |
| Sam Matthews | 6–6 | 275 | 4.87 | Jacksonville-Bolles, FL | Alabama |
| Tango McCauley | 6–4 | 260 | 4.70 | Oklahoma City-Marshall, OK | Texas A&M |
| Tommy Moody | 6–5 | 270 | 4.70 | Seville-Taylor, FL | Florida |
| Ryan Nielsen | 6–5 | 235 | 4.80 | Simi Valley-Royal, CA | USC |
| Larry Paul | 6–3 | 247 | 4.90 | Moody, AL | Alabama |
| Cleveland Pinkney | 6–2 | 270 | 4.80 | Sumter, SC | South Carolina |
| Melvin Richey | 6–4 | 280 | 4.80 | Decatur-Southwest Dekalb, GA | LSU |
| DeVane Robinson | 6–3 | 260 | 4.80 | Midwest City, OK | Kansas State |
| Shaun Rogers | 6–5 | 268 | 4.90 | La Porte, TX | Texas |
| Alonzo Shuler | 6–3 | 245 | 4.60 | Calhoun-St. Matthew's, SC | South Carolina |
| Kendall Simmons | 6–3 | 314 | 5.00 | Ripley, MS | Auburn |
| Jesse Simms | 6–3 | 265 | 4.80 | Norwalk-K.L.H.T, CT | UCLA |
| Ben Sobieski | 6–6 | 285 | 4.95 | Mahtomedi, MN | Iowa |
| Stephen Sua | 6–1 | 257 | 4.80 | Tustin, CA | UCLA |
| Anthony Thomas | 6–3 | 240 | 4.70 | Pasadena, CA | Arizona |
| Josh Weldon | 6–4 | 260 | 4.90 | Cordele-Crisp Co., GA | Auburn |
| Adrian Wilson | 6–3 | 310 | 4.90 | Jacksonville, AR | Miami |
| Tracey Wistrom | 6–5 | 205 | 4.70 | Webb, MO | Nebraska |

## LINEBACKERS

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Monty Beisel | 6–4 | 240 | 4.50 | Douglass, KS | Kansas State |
| Courtland Bullard | 6–3 | 215 | 4.55 | Miami-Southridge, FL | Ohio State |
| Mike Burke | 6–2 | 210 | 4.57 | Denver-Mullen, CO | Stanford |
| Jamie Burrow | 6–2 | 240 | 4.70 | Ames, IA | Nebraska |
| James Callier | 6–1 | 223 | 4.70 | Miami-Killian, FL | Auburn |
| Derrell Daniels | 6–1 | 210 | 4.60 | San Fernando-Sylmar, CA | Washington |
| Andra Davis | 6–2 | 240 | 4.70 | Live Oak-Suwannee, FL | Florida |
| Anthony Denmon | 6–3 | 205 | 4.40 | Rusk, TX | Notre Dame |
| Kennard Ellis | 6–2 | 225 | 4.50 | Orlando-Dr. Phillips, FL | Florida |
| Asa Francis | 6–2 | 205 | 4.70 | Ft. Lauderdale-Plantation, FL | Auburn |
| Jake Frysinger | 6–3 | 220 | 4.80 | Grosse Ile, MI | Michigan |
| Santi Hall | 6–2 | 242 | 4.60 | Moreno Valley-Valley View, CA | UCLA |
| Jerrod Hayden | 6–1 | 215 | 4.50 | Louisville-Easter, KY | Tennessee |
| Hugh Holmes | 6–2 | 210 | 4.50 | Kissimmee-Osceola, FL | Notre Dame |
| Darion Hutcherson | 6–1 | 205 | 4.60 | Atlanta-Douglass, GA | South Carolina |
| Ben Leber | 6–3 | 235 | 4.70 | Vermillion, SD | Kansas State |
| Joe McKinney | 6–3 | 238 | 4.70 | Valencia-Mars, PA | Penn State |
| Joel Mesman | 6–3 | 245 | 4.70 | Grand Rapids-S. Christian, MI | Michigan State |
| Matt Miller | 6–4 | 230 | 4.60 | Alpharetta-Marist, GA | Georgia Tech |
| Brandon Moore | 6–2 | 205 | 4.40 | Freeport-Baldwin, NY | Oklahoma |
| Zeke Moreno | 6–3 | 240 | 4.60 | Chula Vista-Castle Park, CA | USC |

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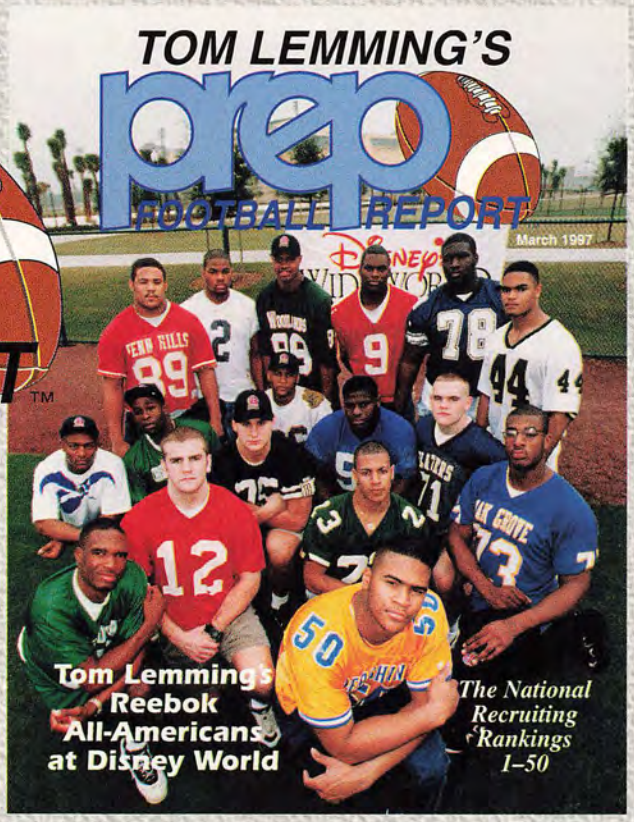


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| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tom O'Brien | 6–4 | 235 | 4.70 | La Grange Park-Nazareth, IL | Northwestern |
| Merceda Perry | 6–4 | 230 | 4.70 | Asheboro, NC | North Carolina |
| Tony Peters | 6–0 | 215 | 4.60 | Sapulpa-Tulsa McLain, OK | Oklahoma |
| Michael Pollard | 6–1 | 220 | 4.58 | Long Beach-Poly, CA | USC |
| Tavarreus Pounds | 6–1 | 206 | 4.60 | Villa Rica, GA | Auburn |
| Christian Rodriguez | 6–3 | 223 | 4.50 | Mesquite, TX | Texas A&M |
| Tim Shear | 6–2 | 208 | 4.80 | Junction City, OR | Oregon |
| Whit Smith | 6–4 | 225 | 4.75 | Cordelle-Crisp Co., GA | Auburn |
| Josh Spoerl | 6–2 | 220 | 4.54 | Mesquite, TX | Texas |
| Chris Wheeler | 6–1 | 225 | 4.55 | Sylacauga-Comer, AL | Alabama |

## DEFENSIVE BACKS

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Kecalf Bailey | 5–10 | 175 | 4.30 | Tuscaloosa-Central, AL | Alabama |
| Albus Brooks | 6–1 | 180 | 4.57 | Claremont, CA | Colorado |
| Robert Carswell | 6–2 | 218 | 4.50 | Stone Mountain, GA | Clemson |
| Zimbalist Carter | 6–2 | 180 | 4.37 | Riverside-Poly, CA | Colorado |
| Wondame Davis | 5–11 | 160 | 4.45 | Denver-Manual, CO | Washington |
| Tony Dixon | 6–2 | 190 | 4.50 | Reform-Pickens Co., AL | Alabama |
| Markese Fitzgerald | 5–11 | 180 | 4.60 | St. Petersburg-Hollins, FL | Miami |
| Maurice Fitzgerald | 5–10 | 180 | 4.50 | Nashville-Pearl-Cohn, TN | Tennessee |
| Jason Glenn | 6–2 | 205 | 4.50 | Houston-Nimitz, TX | Texas A&M |
| Quentin Harris | 6–0 | 175 | 4.50 | Wilkes-Barre-Meyers, PA | Syracuse |
| Michael Hayes | 6–4 | 210 | 4.65 | Opelousas, LA | LSU |
| Abdual Howard | 6–1 | 190 | 4.40 | Quincy-Shanks, FL | Florida State |
| Ron Israel | 6–1 | 175 | 4.45 | Haddon Heights, NJ | Notre Dame |
| Quentin Jammer | 6–1 | 180 | 4.40 | Angleton, TX | Texas |
| Riley Jefferson | 5–11 | 180 | 4.40 | Jersey City-Bayonne, NJ | Rutgers |
| Darryl Knight | 6–2 | 195 | 4.58 | Riverside-Rubidoux, CA | USC |
| Omare Lowe | 6–0 | 175 | 4.48 | Maple Valley-Tahoma, WA | Washington |
| Marquand Manuel | 6–0 | 193 | 4.40 | Miami, FL | Florida |
| J.D. Mathis | 6–0 | 170 | 4.50 | Pampa, TX | Oklahoma |
| Leonard Myers | 6–0 | 175 | 4.50 | Fort Lauderdale-Dillard, FL | Miami |
| William Norwood | 6–5 | 195 | 4.55 | Englewood, NJ | Temple |
| Willie Offord | 6–2 | 195 | 4.40 | Palatka, FL | South Carolina |
| Rob Pate | 6–2 | 195 | 4.50 | Birmingham-Erwin, AL | Auburn |
| Garrett Sabol | 6–0 | 187 | 4.60 | La Palma-Kennedy, CA | Oregon |
| Stanford Simmons | 6–3 | 195 | 4.50 | Ashland-Clay Co., AL | Auburn |
| Jason Stephens | 6–2 | 180 | 4.40 | Highland, CA | UCLA |
| Clevan Thomas | 6–0 | 175 | 4.55 | Miami, FL | Florida State |
| Mike Wilson | 6–0 | 190 | 4.32 | Corona-Centennial, CA | Arizona |

## PLACEKICKERS

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sebastian Janikowski | 6–2 | 215 | 4.70 | Daytona Beach-Seabreeze, FL | Florida State |
| Greg Owens | 5–11 | 200 | 4.90 | Stuart-St. Edwards, FL | Virginia |

## ATHLETES

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rufus Brown | 6–1 | 195 | 4.40 | Belzoni-Humphreys Co., MS | North Carolina |
| Stacy Davis | 6–4 | 205 | 4.55 | Tallahasse-Godby, FL | Florida State |
| Tyres Dickson | 6–1 | 175 | 4.30 | Houston-Scarborough, TX | Texas |
| Kris Richard | 6–0 | 170 | 4.30 | Carson-Serra, CA | USC |
| Clifton Robinson | 5–8 | 190 | 4.50 | Naples-Collier, FL | Auburn |
| Eric Rosel | 6–5 | 200 | 4.43 | Liberal, KS | Michigan |
| Justin Smith | 6–1 | 185 | 4.50 | St. Petersburg-Lakewood, FL | Notre Dame |
| Irwin Swiney | 6–1 | 180 | 4.42 | Lincoln-Southeast, NE | Nebraska |
| Andrew Zow | 6–1 | 210 | 4.60 | Lake Butler-Union Co., FL | Alabama |

# TOP 50 IN ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE

**By Position**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| QB | Woodrow Dantzler | 5–11 | 195 | 4.65 | Orangeburg-Wilkinson, SC | Clemson |
| QB | Phillip Deas | 6–1 | 190 | 4.80 | Bossier City-Evangel, LA | North Carolina |
| QB | Dan Ellis | 6–3 | 216 | 4.70 | Exton-Downingtown, PA | Virginia |
| RB-DB | Ravon Anderson | 5–11 | 190 | 4.32 | Hoboken, NJ | North Carolina |
| RB | Davey Ford | 5–11 | 188 | 4.40 | W. Palm Beach-Newman, FL | Florida State |
| RB | Tyree Foreman | 5–11 | 205 | 4.50 | Brinklow-Sherwood, MD | Virginia |
| FB-LB | Harold Jackson | 6–1 | 245 | 4.60 | Wilkes-Barre Gar, PA | N.C. State |
| RB | Lamont Jordan | 5–11 | 210 | 4.40 | Forestville-Suitland, MD | Maryland |
| RB | William McCray | 6–0 | 215 | 4.32 | Jacksonville-Bolles, FL | Florida State |
| RB | Travis Minor | 6–1 | 190 | 4.50 | Baton Rouge-Catholic, LA | Florida State |
| RB | Anthony Saunders | 6–2 | 210 | 4.60 | Greensboro-W. Guilford, NC | North Carolina |
| FB | Ed Wilder | 6–2 | 250 | 4.60 | Washington-Wilkes, GA | Georgia Tech |
| RB | Antoine Womack | 6–0 | 210 | 4.30 | Hampton-Phoebus, VA | Virginia |
| RB | Travis Zachery | 6–2 | 185 | 4.40 | Marietta, GA | Clemson |
| WR | Jimmy Caldwell | 5–10 | 165 | 4.60 | Winston Salem-Mt. Tabor, NC | Wake Forest |
| WR | Ahmad Hawkins | 5–10 | 180 | 4.50 | Hampton, VA | Virginia |
| WR | Robert Morgan | 6–0 | 180 | 4.40 | East Point-Tri Cities, GA | Florida State |
| TE-DL | Jovon Bush | 6–5 | 265 | 4.60 | Hardesville-Jasper Co., SC | Clemson |
| TE | Carver Donaldson | 6–6 | 255 | 4.80 | Lakeland-Kathleen, FL | Florida State |
| TE | Eric James | 6–2 | 225 | 4.60 | Washington-Anacostia, DC | Maryland |
| TE | Nate Krill | 6–7 | 235 | 4.70 | McLean, VA | Duke |
| TE | Alvan Morrow | 6–5 | 240 | 4.70 | Kirkwood, MO | Florida State |
| TE-LB | Monsanto Pope | 6–3 | 230 | 4.70 | Hopewell, VA | Virginia |
| OL | Ronald Boldin | 6–6 | 270 | 5.10 | Pahokee, FL | Florida State |
| OL | Michael Byrne | 6–5 | 285 | 5.10 | Hinesville-Bradwell Inst., GA | Georgia Tech |
| OL | Neely Page | 6–4 | 280 | 5.10 | Aiken, SC | Clemson |
| OL | Evan Routzahn | 6–6 | 285 | 5.20 | Middletown, MD | Virginia |
| NG | Derek Allen | 6–2 | 270 | 4.90 | Duluth, GA | N.C. State |
| DE-LB | Stacy Davis | 6–4 | 205 | 4.55 | Tallahassee-Godby, FL | Florida State |
| DL | Char-Ron Dorsey | 6–7 | 315 | 5.00 | Jacksonville-Bolles, FL | Florida State |
| DL | Josh Graham | 6–3 | 265 | 4.80 | Denver-Jefferson, Co | North Carolina |
| DL | Derrick Jones | 6–3 | 265 | 4.95 | Port Jefferson-Comsewouge, NY | Maryland |
| DL | Guenter Kryszon | 6–4 | 250 | 4.90 | Clark-Johnson, NJ | Georgia Tech |
| DL-OL | Jason Ptak | 6–3 | 265 | 4.70 | Wyandotte, MI | Duke |
| DE | Jamal Reynolds | 6–4 | 240 | 4.65 | Aiken, SC | Florida State |
| DE | David Warren | 6–5 | 240 | 4.60 | Tyler-J. Tyler, TX | Florida State |
| LB | Sedrick Hodge | 6–5 | 210 | 4.50 | Augusta-Westminister, GA | North Carolina |
| LB-RB | Yubrenal Isabelle | 6–2 | 218 | 4.50 | Bluefield, WV | Virginia |
| LB | Matt Miller | 6–4 | 230 | 4.60 | Alpharetta-Marist, GA | Georgia Tech |
| LB | Merceda Perry | 6–4 | 230 | 4.70 | Asheboro, NC | North Carolina |
| DB | Robert Carswell | 6–2 | 218 | 4.50 | Stone Mountain, GA | Clemson |
| DB | Michael Clinkscale | 6–1 | 180 | 4.45 | Youngstown-Chaney, OH | Wake Forest |
| DB | Derrick Gibson | 6–2 | 190 | 4.60 | Miami-Killian, FL | Florida State |
| DB-RB | Billy-Dee Greenwood | 6–2 | 185 | 4.40 | Stamford-K.L.H.T, CT | North Carolina |
| DB | Abdual Howard | 6–1 | 190 | 4.40 | Quincy-Shanks, FL | Florida State |
| DB | Devon Simmons | 5–10 | 192 | 4.50 | Highland Springs, VA | Virginia |
| DB | Clevan Thomas | 6–0 | 175 | 4.55 | Miami, FL | Florida State |
| PK | Sebastian Janikowski | 6–2 | 215 | 4.70 | Daytona Beach-Seabreze, FL | Florida State |
| PK | Greg Owens | 5–11 | 200 | 4.90 | Stuart-St. Edwards, FL | Virginia |
| ATH | Rufus Brown | 6–1 | 195 | 4.40 | Belzoni-Humphreys Co., MS | North Carolina |
| ATH | Domonique Williams | 6–0 | 205 | 4.43 | Upper Marlboro-Gwynn Park, MD | North Carolina |

# TOP 50 IN BIG EAST CONFERENCE

**By Position**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| QB | Andrew Keating | 6–5 | 200 | 4.75 | Germantown-Valley View, OH | West Virginia |
| QB | Kenny Kelly | 6–3 | 188 | 4.57 | Tampa-Catholic, FL | Miami |
| QB | Madei Williams | 6–3 | 196 | 4.70 | Pittsburgh-Woodland Hills, PA | Syracuse |
| RB | Ali Culpepper | 5–11 | 215 | 4.30 | Baltimore-Dunbar, MD | Syracuse |
| RB | Nejah Davenport | 6–2 | 235 | 4.50 | Miami-Central, FL | Miami |
| RB | Kenny Harris | 5–11 | 175 | 4.40 | Buffalo-St. Joseph's, NY | Pitt |
| LB | Camm Jackson | 5–11 | 215 | 4.50 | Madison Heights-Amherst Co., VA | Virginia Tech |
| FB | Dan Morgan | 6–2 | 210 | 4.40 | Coral Springs-Taravella, FL | Miami |
| RB | James Mungro | 5–10 | 190 | 4.55 | East Stroudsberg, PA | Syracuse |
| RB | Kevin Sinclair | 5–9 | 200 | 4.55 | Ocean City, NJ | Rutgers |
| RB | Wayne Ward | 5–11 | 190 | 4.50 | Plant City, FL | Virginia Tech |
| WR | Richard Bryant | 6–0 | 175 | 4.45 | Pahokee, FL | West Virginia |
| WR | Jeremy Cooper | 6–0 | 170 | 4.50 | Kingsway, NJ | Syracuse |
| WR | Delrico Fletcher | 6–2 | 195 | 4.50 | Braddock-Woodland Hills, PA | Rutgers |
| WR | Maurice Jackson | 5–10 | 175 | 4.29 | Rochester-Marshall, NY | Syracuse |
| WR | Daryl Jones | 5–10 | 170 | 4.38 | Dallas-Carter, TX | Miami |
| WR | Maurice Minter | 6–4 | 210 | 4.40 | Ossining, NY | Syracuse |
| WR | Reggie Wayne | 6–2 | 190 | 4.50 | Marrero-Ehret, LA | Miami |
| WR | Robert Williams | 6–4 | 215 | 4.50 | Dallas-Bishop Lynch, TX | Miami |
| WR-DB | Chamari Willis | 6–1 | 180 | 4.40 | Inwood-Lawrence, NY | West Virginia |
| TE | Joe Conlin | 6–5 | 245 | 4.90 | Greensburg-C. Catholic, PA | Pitt |
| TE | .Kevin Crane | 6–4 | 235 | 4.70 | Wixom-Western, MI | Boston College |
| TE-LB | Jim Ferugio | 6–2 | 225 | 4.70 | St. Clair-Pottsville, PA | Virginia Tech |
| TE | Graham Manley | 6–3 | 220 | 4.80 | Olney-Sherwood, MD | Syracuse |
| TE | Billy Tulloch | 6–3 | 225 | 4.64 | Union, NJ | Rutgers |
| OL | Martin Bibla | 6–4 | 275 | 5.00 | Mountaintop-Crestwood, PA | Miami |
| OL | Joseph Burton | 6–5 | 270 | 5.10 | Greenwich, CT | Syracuse |
| OL | Tom Coury | 6–3 | 335 | 5.00 | Tarentum-Highlands, PA | Pitt |
| OL | Jason Hopewell | 6–7 | 290 | 5.10 | Highland Park, NJ | Rutgers |
| OL | Matt Knapp | 6–6 | 313 | 5.60 | Stoney Brook-St. Anthony's, NY | Boston College |
| OL | Matt Lehr | 6–3 | 260 | 5.10 | Woodbridge, VA | Virginia Tech |
| OL | Sean O'Connor | 6–4 | 275 | 4.80 | Morristown, NJ | Syracuse |
| OL | David Pugh | 6–3 | 265 | 4.70 | Madison Heights-Amherst Co., VA | Virginia Tech |
| OL | Jeremy Sherman | 6–6 | 300 | 5.21 | Reynoldsburg, PA | West Virginia |
| OL | Ed Wilkins | 6–5 | 265 | 4.90 | Plainfield, NJ | Miami |
| OL | Paul Zukauskas | 6–5 | 280 | 5.10 | Weymouth-B.C., MA | Boston College |
| DL | Chad Beasley | 6–4 | 235 | 5.00 | Gate City , VA | Virginia Tech |
| DE | Jack Bloom | 6–4 | 235 | 4.50 | Toms River-South, NJ | Rutgers |
| DL | Ken Jackson | 6–4 | 305 | 4.90 | New Orleans-St.Augustine, LA | Miami |
| DE | Damien Mallery | 6–4 | 250 | 4.60 | Syracuse-Henniger, NY | Syracuse |
| DL | Tyrone Robertson | 6–5 | 280 | 4.80 | Danville-G. Washington, VA | Virginia Tech |
| DL | Adrian Wilson | 6–3 | 310 | 4.90 | Jacksonville, AR | Miami |
| LB | Bryan Knight | 6–1 | 205 | 4.59 | Buffalo-St. Joe's, NY | Pitt |
| LB | John Yura | 6–0 | 200 | 4.50 | Morgantown, WV | West Virginia |
| DB | Larry Austin | 5–10 | 190 | 4.45 | Norfolk-Norview, VA | Virginia Tech |
| DB | Markese Fitzgerald | 5–11 | 180 | 4.60 | St. Petersburg-Hollins, FL | Miami |
| DB | Quentin Harris | 6–0 | 175 | 4.50 | Wilkes-Barre-Meyers, PA | Syracuse |
| DB | Riley Jefferson | 5–11 | 180 | 4.40 | Jersey City-Bayonne, NJ | Rutgers |
| DB | Leonard Myers | 6–0 | 175 | 4.50 | Fort Lauderdale-Dillard, FL | Miami |
| DB | William Norwood | 6–5 | 195 | 4.55 | Englewood, NJ | Temple |

# TOP 50 IN BIG TEN CONFERENCE

**By Position**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| QB | Lorenzo Guess | 6–3 | 190 | 4.60 | Wayne, MI | Michigan State |
| QB | David Priestley | 6–4 | 200 | 4.77 | Cypress-Brethren Christian, CA | Ohio State |
| RB | Damien Anderson | 5–11 | 195 | 4.50 | Wilmington, IL | Northwestern |
| RB | Ladell Betts | 5–11 | 200 | 4.50 | Blue Springs, MO | Iowa |
| RB | Derek Combs | 6–2 | 180 | 4.47 | Grove City, OH | Ohio State |
| RB | Tony Hyppolite | 5–9 | 180 | 4.40 | N. Miami Beach, FL | Minnesota |
| RB | Brian Marshall | 6–0 | 200 | 4.50 | Southfield-Rice, MI | Northwestern |
| RB | Patrick McCall | 5–10 | 185 | 4.40 | Carson, CA | Michigan |
| RB | Sean Penny | 6–2 | 215 | 4.55 | Youngstown-Ursuline, OH | Ohio State |
| FB | Demetrius Smith | 6–2 | 265 | 4.60 | Calumet Park-Richards, IL | Michigan |
| RB | Anthony Thomas | 6–2 | 220 | 4.50 | Winnfield, LA | Michigan |
| RB | Levron Williams | 6–3 | 195 | 4.57 | Evansville-Bosse, IN | Indiana |
| WR | Bruce Branch | 6–1 | 180 | 4.40 | Richmond-Huguenot, VA | Penn State |
| WR | Chris Chambers | 6–1 | 180 | 4.50 | Bedford, OH | Wisconsin |
| WR | O.J. Conner | 6–3 | 180 | 4.50 | Gary-Westside, IN | Indiana |
| WR | Sam Crenshaw | 6–4 | 200 | 4.50 | Youngstown-Rayen, OH | Penn State |
| WR | Reggie Germany | 6–1 | 195 | 4.50 | Hazelwood-East, MO | Ohio State |
| WR | Kahlil Hill | 6–3 | 185 | 4.50 | Iowa City, IA | Iowa |
| TE | John Gilmore | 6–4 | 230 | 4.70 | Wernersville-West Lawn, PA | Penn State |
| TE-LB | Napoleon Harris | 6–4 | 215 | 4.60 | Dixmoor-Thornton, IL | Northwestern |
| TE | Darnell Sanders | 6–6 | 235 | 4.50 | Warrensville Hts., OH | Ohio State |
| OL | Jason Brooks | 6–4 | 270 | 5.10 | Cleveland-St. Ignatius, OH | Michigan |
| OL | Lance Clelland | 6–6 | 275 | 5.10 | Reisterstown-McDonough, MD | Northwestern |
| OL | Adam Fay | 6–5 | 290 | 5.20 | Bettendorf, IA | Northwestern |
| OL | Tam Hopkins | 6–5 | 315 | 5.30 | Winter Park-Lake Howell, FL | Ohio State |
| OL | Josh Jakubowski | 6–6 | 335 | 5.30 | Schofield-Everest, WI | Wisconsin |
| OL | Ben Mast | 6–5 | 275 | 5.00 | Massillon-Washington, OH | Michigan |
| OL | Kareem McKenzie | 6–6 | 330 | 5.20 | Willingboro, NJ | Penn State |
| OL | Josh Mitchell | 6–5 | 270 | 5.10 | Doylestown-C. Bucks East, PA | Penn State |
| OL | Michael Souza | 6–7 | 290 | 5.20 | Kaneohe-Punahou, HI | Northwestern |
| DL | Rodney Bailey | 6–5 | 260 | 4.90 | Lakewood-St. Edwards, OH | Ohio State |
| DL-OL | Derek Burns | 6–6 | 275 | 5.00 | Eden Prairie, MN | Minnesota |
| DL | Jeremy Dox | 6–2 | 275 | 4.90 | St. Paul-Cretin-Derham Hall, MN | Wisconsin |
| DL | Aaron Habermann | 6–3 | 265 | 4.80 | Hartland-Arrowhead, WI | Wisconsin |
| DL-OL | Ben Sobieski | 6–6 | 285 | 4.95 | Mahtomadi, MN | Iowa |
| DL | Maurice Williams | 6–5 | 245 | 4.77 | Detroit-Pershing, MI | Michigan |
| LB | Kurt Anderson | 6–5 | 230 | 4.90 | Glenbrook, IL | Michigan |
| LB | La Var Arrington | 6–4 | 225 | 4.50 | Pittsburgh-North Hills, PA | Penn State |
| LB | Courtland Bullard | 6–3 | 215 | 4.55 | Miami-Southridge, FL | Ohio State |
| LB | Jake Frysinger | 6–3 | 220 | 4.80 | Grosse Ile, MI | Michigan |
| LB | Ron Graham | 6–3 | 240 | 4.65 | Pittsburgh-Penn Hills, PA | Penn State |
| LB | Joe McKinney | 6–3 | 238 | 4.70 | Valencia-Mars, PA | Penn State |
| LB | Joel Mesman | 6–3 | 245 | 4.70 | Grand Rapids-S. Christian, MI | Michigan State |
| LB | Tom O'Brien | 6–4 | 235 | 4.70 | La Grange Park-Nazareth, IL | Northwestern |
| LB | Jason Ott | 6–4 | 235 | 4.70 | Cincinnati-Elder, OH | Ohio State |
| DB | Renaldo Hill | 5–11 | 170 | 4.50 | Detroit-Chadsey, MI | Michigan State |
| DB | James Whitley | 6–0 | 180 | 4.50 | Norfolk-Norview, VA | Michigan |
| ATH | James Boyd | 6–1 | 195 | 4.40 | Chesapeake-Deep Creek, VA | Penn State |
| ATH | Robert Jackson | 6–1 | 200 | 4.50 | Corvallis-Cresent Valley, OR | Illinois |
| ATH | Antwaan Randle El | 5–11 | 175 | 4.40 | Riverdale-Thornton, IL | Indiana |
| ATH | Eric Rosel | 6–5 | 200 | 4.43 | Liberal, KS | Michigan |

# TOP 50 IN BIG TWELVE CONFERENCE

**By Position**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| QB | Greg Cicero | 6–4 | 185 | 4.70 | Anaheim-Servite, CA | Texas |
| QB | Eric Crouch | 6–0 | 190 | 4.40 | Millard-North, NE | Nebraska |
| QB | JamesDougherty | 6–4 | 185 | 4.65 | Edwardsville, IL | Missouri |
| QB | Bobby Newcombe | 6–0 | 185 | 4.50 | Albuquerque-Highland, NM | Nebraska |
| QB | Matt Schobel | 6–4 | 220 | 4.60 | Columbus, TX | Texas A&M |
| QB | B.J. Tiger | 6–3 | 195 | 4.50 | Tulsa-B.T. Washington, OK | Oklahoma State |
| RB | Damion Barton | 5–11 | 180 | 4.30 | Corona-Centennial, CA | Colorado |
| RB | Correll Buckhalter | 6–2 | 210 | 4.50 | Mt. Olive, MS | Nebraska |
| RB | Eric Gooden | 6–3 | 215 | 4.50 | Midwest City, OK | Kansas State |
| RB | Darnell McDonald | 5–11 | 190 | 4.50 | Englewood-Cherry Creek, CO | Texas |
| RB | Hodges Mitchell | 5–7 | 185 | 4.30 | Dallas-Skyline, TX | Texas |
| RB | Dominic Rhodes | 5–9 | 190 | 4.40 | Abilene-Cooper, TX | Texas Tech |
| WR | David Aaron | 6–4 | 186 | 4.50 | Marshall, TX | Texas |
| WR | Cedric Cormier | 5–11 | 175 | 4.30 | Houston-North Shore, TX | Colorado |
| WR | Roman Hollowell | 5–7 | 155 | 4.45 | Denver-Mullen, CO | Colorado |
| WR | Julius McMillian | 5–11 | 170 | 4.30 | Altus, OK | Kansas State |
| WR | J.T. Thatcher | 6–1 | 175 | 4.40 | Norman, OK | Oklahoma |
| OL | Leonard Davis | 6–5 | 350 | 5.10 | Wortham, TX | Texas |
| OL | Andre Gurode | 6–3 | 285 | 5.00 | Houston-North Shore, TX | Colorado |
| OL | Lynn Larabee | 6–3 | 245 | 5.00 | Oklahoma City-Western Hts., OK | Oklahoma |
| OL | Seth McKinney | 6–4 | 280 | 4.90 | Austin-Westlake, TX | Texas A&M |
| OL | Luke Nichols | 6–5 | 295 | 5.20 | Beaumont-Kelly, TX | Baylor |
| OL | Victor Rogers | 6–6 | 300 | 5.10 | Federal Way-Decatur, WA | Colorado |
| OL | Jon Rutherford | 6–3 | 270 | 4.94 | Midwest City, OK | Nebraska |
| OL | Mike Wambolt | 6–4 | 285 | 5.20 | New Hall-Hart, CA | Colorado |
| DL | Rocky Bernard | 6–3 | 255 | 5.00 | Baytown-Sterling, TX | Texas A&M |
| DE | Rocky Bright | 6–4 | 235 | 4.70 | Tulsa-B.T. Washington, OK | Oklahoma |
| DE | Corey Callens | 6–3 | 258 | 4.60 | Jenks, OK | Oklahoma |
| DE | Lonnie Madison | 6–4 | 235 | 4.70 | The Woodlands-McCullough, TX | Texas A&M |
| DE-TE | Tango McCauley | 6–4 | 260 | 4.70 | Oklahoma City-Marshall, OK | Texas A&M |
| DL-OL | DeVane Robinson | 6–3 | 260 | 4.80 | Midwest City, OK | Kansas State |
| DL | Shaun Rogers | 6–5 | 268 | 4.90 | La Porte, TX | Texas |
| DE | Kyle Vanden Bosch | 6–4 | 235 | 4.60 | Larchwood-W. Lyon, IA | Nebraska |
| LB | Monty Beisel | 6–4 | 240 | 4.50 | Douglass, KS | Kansas State |
| LB | Roylin Bradley | 6–2 | 222 | 4.40 | Lamarque, TX | Texas A&M |
| LB | Jamie Burrow | 6–2 | 240 | 4.70 | Ames, IA | Nebraska |
| LB | Ty Gregorak | 6–3 | 250 | 4.88 | Spokane-West Valley, WA | Colorado |
| LB | Ben Leber | 6–3 | 235 | 4.70 | Vermillion, Sd | Kansas State |
| LB | Brandon Moore | 6–2 | 205 | 4.40 | Freeport-Baldwin, NY | Oklahoma |
| LB | Tony Peters | 6–0 | 215 | 4.60 | Sapulpa-Tulsa McLain, OK | Oklahoma |
| LB | Christian Rodriguez | 6–3 | 223 | 4.50 | Mesquite, TX | Texas A&M |
| LB | Josh Spoerl | 6–2 | 222 | 4.54 | N. Mesquite, TX | Texas |
| DB | Albus Brooks | 6–1 | 180 | 4.57 | Claremont, CA | Colorado |
| DB | Jason Glenn | 6–2 | 205 | 4.50 | Houston-Nimitz, TX | Texas A&M |
| DB | Quenton Jammer | 6–1 | 180 | 4.40 | Angleton, TX | Texas |
| DB | John Norman | 6–2 | 180 | 4.55 | Midland-Lee, TX | Texas Tech |
| DB | Joe Walker | 6–0 | 175 | 4.50 | Galena Park-North Shore, TX | Texas |
| DB | Nate Wright, Jr. | 6–0 | 170 | 4.50 | San Diego-Point Loma, CA | Colorado |
| ATH | Zimbalist Carter | 6–2 | 180 | 4.37 | Riverside-Poly, CA | Colorado |
| ATH | Tyres Dickson | 6–1 | 175 | 4.30 | Houston-Scarborough, TX | Texas |

# TOP 50 IN CONFERENCE USA*

**By Position**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| QB | Stephen Galbraith | 6–1 | 190 | 4.60 | Marietta-Lassiter, GA | Memphis |
| QB | David Garrard | 6–3 | 240 | 4.90 | Durham-S. Durham, NC | East Carolina |
| QB | Gary Gumm | 6–4 | 210 | 4.80 | Louisville-Doss, KY | Louisville |
| QB | Jeff Kelly | 6–2 | 200 | 4.80 | Citronelle, AL | Southern Miss |
| QB | Arnie Powell | 6–5 | 205 | 4.80 | Deep Creek, VA | East Carolina |
| QB | Jeff Tippets | 6–3 | 190 | 4.50 | Jacksonville, AL | UAB |
| RB | Toney Converse | 5–9 | 170 | 4.42 | Metairie-Riverdale, LA | Tulane |
| RB | Corey Harris | 5–10 | 185 | 4.50 | Houston-Clearlake, TX | Houston |
| RB | Leonard Henry | 6–1 | 195 | 4.60 | Clinton, NC | East Carolina |
| Fb | Kyle Rea | 6–3 | 210 | 4.55 | Russelville, AL | UAB |
| RB | Barry Smith | 5–11 | 200 | 4.50 | Marrero-Shaw, LA | Tulane |
| RB | Dawayne Woods | 5–10 | 185 | 4.32 | Slidell-Salmen, LA | Southern Miss |
| WR | Daniel Belcha | 6–4 | 180 | 4.50 | Ft. Worth-Wyatt, TX | Houston |
| WR | Dushawn Dorsey | 6–2 | 170 | 4.50 | Somerville, NJ | Cincinnati |
| WR | Kenyon Hambrick | 6–2 | 170 | 4.40 | Huntsville-Johnson, AL | UAB |
| WR | Orlando Iglesias | 6–3 | 200 | 4.40 | Miami-Coral Park, FL | Houston |
| WR-DB | Travis Johnson | 6–3 | 180 | 4.50 | Jacksonville, AL | UAB |
| WR | Tootie Myers | 5–11 | 180 | 4.45 | Petal, MS | Southern Miss |
| WR | Zander Robinson | 5–9 | 170 | 4.40 | Marrero-Ehret, LA | Tulane |
| TE | Marcus Bryson | 6–5 | 240 | 4.70 | Laurens, SC | East Carolina |
| TE | Corey Floyd | 6–3 | 335 | 4.70 | Trenton, NJ | East Carolina |
| TE | Ed Kelley | 6–5 | 230 | 4.70 | Houston-MacArthur, TX | Houston |
| OL | Braxton Anderson | 6–5 | 270 | 5.00 | Franklin-Simpson, KY | Louisville |
| OL | Jabari Beauford | 6–4 | 300 | 5.32 | Houston-Jesuit, TX | Houston |
| OL | Tony Cunningham | 6–2 | 275 | 4.90 | River Ridge-Curtis, LA | Tulane |
| OL | Aaron Darzinski | 6–2 | 265 | 5.20 | Garfield Heights, OH | Louisville |
| OL | Rob Eble | 6–7 | 275 | 5.20 | Marietta-Walton, GA | Louisville |
| OL | Philip Gambrell | 6–6 | 295 | 5.00 | Florence-Coffee, AL | UAB |
| OL | Carl Greene | 6–7 | 270 | 5.30 | Louisville-Trinity, KY | Louisville |
| OL | DeCoryre Hampton | 6–7 | 325 | 5.00 | Memphis-Westwood, TN | Memphis |
| OL-DL | David Sherrod | 6–7 | 315 | 5.10 | Atkins, AR | Memphis |
| DE | Marcus Bell | 6–4 | 285 | 4.70 | Memphis-Kingsbury, TN | Memphis |
| DE-TE | Orlando Dantzler | 6–4 | 262 | 4.80 | Purvis, MS | Southern Miss |
| DL-OL | Julian Gibson | 6–4 | 270 | 5.10 | Elizabeth, NJ | Memphis |
| DL | Chris Howell | 6–3 | 266 | 5.10 | Greenville-Rose, NC | East Carolina |
| DE-TE | Ty Hunt | 6–6 | 220 | 4.70 | Hickory, NC | East Carolina |
| DL | Ernie Moore | 6–4 | 250 | 5.30 | Slidell-Salmen, LA | Southern Miss |
| DE | Patrick Willis | 6–3 | 240 | 4.70 | Memphis-Kingsbury, TN | Memphis |
| LB-FB | Tommie Baldwin | 5–11 | 200 | 4.50 | Houston-MacArthur, TX | Houston |
| LB | Pernell Griffin | 6–3 | 221 | 4.70 | Williamston, NC | East Carolina |
| LB | Tyrone Griffin | 6–1 | 205 | 4.60 | Rome, GA | UAB |
| LB | Sam Hairston | 6–2 | 240 | 4.60 | Ft. W. Bch.-Choctaw. Shalimar, FL | Houston |
| LB | Hosea James | 6–4 | 218 | 4.60 | Jacksonville, NC | East Carolina |
| LB | Corey Sears | 6–2 | 215 | 4.70 | Montgomery-Lee, AL | Southern Miss |
| LB | Brant Stogner | 6–2 | 238 | 4.60 | El Campo, TX | Houston |
| DB | Darrell Griffith Jr. | 6–1 | 175 | 4.40 | Louisville-Ballard, KY | Louisville |
| DB | Bachie McGruder | 5–11 | 165 | 4.48 | Waxahachie, TX | Houston |
| DB | Antonio Roundtree | 5–9 | 175 | 4.50 | Jacksonville-Bolles, FL | Louisville |
| RB | Kendall Williams | 6–3 | 225 | 4.40 | Dallas-Roosevelt, TX | Houston |
| ATH | Deontey Kenner | 6–2 | 180 | 4.65 | Hopkinsville, KY | Cincinnati |

***Note:** UAB, a C-USA charter member, begins football league play in 1999.

## TOP 50 IN PACIFIC-10 CONFERENCE

**By Position**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| QB | Randy Fasani | 6–3 | 215 | 4.70 | Granite Bay-Del Oro, CA | Stanford |
| QB | Joey Harrington | 6–4 | 194 | 4.72 | Portland-Central Catholic, OR | Oregon |
| QB | Ed Stansbury | 6–2 | 225 | 4.60 | El Paso-Ervin, TX | UCLA |
| QB | Marques Tuiasosopo | 6–1 | 200 | 4.50 | Woodinville, WA | Washington |
| RB | William Blocker | 5–11 | 210 | 4.43 | San Bernardino-Pacific, CA | Arizona |
| RB | Marcus Fields | 6–2 | 185 | 4.60 | Stockton-Stagg, CA | California |
| RB | Malaefou MacKenzie | 6–0 | 200 | 4.38 | Mission Viejo-Capistrano Valley, CA | USC |
| RB | Coy Wire | 6–1 | 205 | 4.50 | Camp Hill-Cedar Cliff, PA | Stanford |
| WR-RB | JaWarren Hooker | 5–11 | 165 | 4.30 | Ellensburg, WA | Washington |
| WR | Cody Joyce | 6–1 | 193 | 4.43 | Saguas-Hart, CA | UCLA |
| WR | Freddie Mitchell II | 6–0 | 175 | 4.45 | Lakeland-Kathleen, FL | UCLA |
| WR | Brandon Nash | 6–2 | 195 | 4.48 | Beverly Hills, CA | Arizona |
| WR | Brian Poli-Dixon | 6–4 | 195 | 4.50 | Tucson-Sabino, AZ | UCLA |
| WR | Justin Taplin | 6–0 | 180 | 4.50 | Tempe, AZ | Arizona State |
| TE | Lonnie Ford | 6–3 | 220 | 4.60 | San Diego-Morse, CA | USC |
| TE-LB | Antoine Harris | 6–4 | 220 | 4.80 | Los Angeles-Loyola, CA | USC |
| TE | Austin Lee | 6–5 | 250 | 4.80 | Coeur d'Alene-Post Falls, ID | Stanford |
| TE-LB | Corey Smith | 6–4 | 245 | 4.85 | Galt, CA | California |
| TE-DE | John Westra | 6–5 | 235 | 4.80 | Mesa-Red Mountian, AZ | Washington |
| TE | Matt Wright | 6–5 | 240 | 4.87 | Boca Raton-Pinecrest, FL | Stanford |
| OL | Troy Danoff | 6–4 | 280 | 5.00 | Albuquerque-La Cueva, NM | UCLA |
| OL-DL | Bryan Kula | 6–4 | 285 | 5.15 | Phoenix-Brophy Prep, AZ | Arizona |
| OL | Scott Peters | 6–3 | 305 | 4.90 | Pleasanton-Amador Valley, CA | Arizona State |
| OL | Langston Walker | 6–7 | 290 | 5.13 | Oakland-O'Dowd, CA | California |
| OL | Ralph Zarate | 6–5 | 275 | 4.90 | Tucson, AZ | Arizona State |
| DL | Andre Carter | 6–4 | 245 | 4.55 | San Jose-Oak Grove, CA | California |
| DL | Kenyon Coleman | 6–5 | 260 | 4.90 | Alta Loma, CA | UCLA |
| DE | Marcus Hoover | 6–4 | 245 | 4.80 | Philadelphia-Abington, PA | Stanford |
| DL | Ryan Nielsen | 6–5 | 235 | 4.80 | Simi Valley-Royal, CA | USC |
| DL | Jesse Simms | 6–3 | 265 | 4.80 | Norwalk-K.L.H.T., CT | UCLA |
| DL | Stephen Sua | 6–1 | 257 | 4.80 | Tustin, CA | UCLA |
| DL | Anthony Thomas | 6–3 | 240 | 4.70 | Pasadena, CA | Arizona |
| LB | Mike Burke | 6–2 | 210 | 4.57 | Denver-Mullen, CO | Stanford |
| LB | Derrell Daniels | 6–1 | 210 | 4.60 | San Fernando-Sylmar, CA | Washington |
| LB | Santi Hall | 6–2 | 242 | 4.60 | Moreno Valley-Valley View, CA | UCLA |
| LB | Zeke Moreno | 6–3 | 240 | 4.60 | Chula Vista-Castle Park, CA | USC |
| LB | Michael Pollard | 6–1 | 220 | 4.58 | Long Beach-Poly, CA | USC |
| LB | Tim Shear | 6–2 | 208 | 4.80 | Junction City, OR | Oregon |
| LB-RB | Albert Tuipulotu | 6–1 | 220 | 4.45 | San Mateo, CA | Washington |
| DB | Wondame Davis | 5–11 | 160 | 4.45 | Denver-Manual, CO | Washington |
| DB | Darryl Knight | 6–2 | 195 | 4.58 | Riverside-Rubidoux, CA | USC |
| DB | Omare Lowe | 6–0 | 175 | 4.48 | Maple Valley-Tahoma, WA | Washington |
| DB-RB | Saleem Muhammad | 5–11 | 195 | 4.50 | Pittsburg-De la Salle, CA | California |
| DB | Ife Ohalete | 6–2 | 205 | 4.60 | Los Alamitos, CA | USC |
| DB | Garrett Sabol | 6–1 | 185 | 4.60 | La Palma-Kennedy, CA | Oregon |
| DB | Antuan Simmons | 5–11 | 185 | 4.40 | Sacramento-Valley, CA | USC |
| DB | Jason Stephens | 6–2 | 180 | 4.40 | Highland, CA | UCLA |
| DB | Mike Wilson | 6–0 | 190 | 4.32 | Corona-Centennial, CA | Arizona |
| ATH | Rod Perry | 5–10 | 180 | 4.40 | Irvine-Mater Dei, CA | USC |
| ATH | Kris Richard | 6–0 | 170 | 4.30 | Gardena-Sierra, CA | USC |

## TOP 50 IN SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE

**By Position**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| QB | Daniel Cobb | 6–5 | 205 | 4.59 | Marietta-Harrison, GA | Georgia |
| QB | Rohan Davey | 6–3 | 220 | 4.60 | Hialeah-Miami Lakes, FL | LSU |
| QB | Romaro Miller | 6–1 | 180 | 4.50 | Shannon, MS | Ole Miss |
| QB | Tim Olmstead | 6–2 | 196 | 4.65 | Binghampton, NY | Florida |
| QB | Jesse Palmer | 6–3 | 212 | 4.60 | Nepean-St. Pius, ON | Florida |
| FB | Tommy Banks | 6–0 | 242 | 4.55 | West Monroe, LA | LSU |
| RB | Demontray Carter | 5–10 | 185 | 4.40 | Pensacola, FL | Auburn |
| FB | Adam Cox | 6–1 | 220 | 4.47 | Jasper-Walker, AL | Alabama |
| RB | Travis Henry | 5–10 | 212 | 4.50 | Frostproof, FL | Tennessee |
| FB | Ron Johnson | 5–11 | 205 | 4.40 | Pine Bluff-Watson Chapel, AR | Arkansas |
| RB | Jamal Lewis | 6–1 | 220 | 4.40 | Atlanta-Douglass, GA | Tennessee |
| RB | Dulymus Mcallister | 6–1 | 190 | 4.45 | Morton, MS | Ole Miss |
| RB | Jasper Sanks | 6–2 | 215 | 4.50 | Columbus-Carver, GA | Georgia |
| RB | Antonio Williams | 6–0 | 218 | 4.40 | Tuscaloosa-Central, AL | Alabama |
| RB | Jimmy Williams | 5–11 | 185 | 4.40 | Baton Rouge-Episcopal, LA | Vanderbilt |
| WR | Herman Banks | 6–0 | 164 | 4.40 | Hartselle, AL | Auburn |
| WR | Abram Booty | 6–2 | 175 | 4.40 | Shreveport-Evangel, LA | LSU |
| WR | Robert Davis | 5–9 | 175 | 4.45 | Shreveport-Evangel, LA | LSU |
| WR | Jermaine Phillips | 6–2 | 195 | 4.50 | Roswell, GA | Georgia |
| WR | Brian Scott | 6–4 | 190 | 4.50 | Darlington, SC | South Carolina |
| WR | Steve Shipp | 6–2 | 190 | 4.40 | Charlotte-W. Charlotte, NC | Florida |
| TE | Joe Domingeaux | 6–5 | 245 | 4.75 | Crowley, LA | LSU |
| OL | Michael Barfield | 6–5 | 270 | 5.00 | Dothan-Northview, AL | Alabama |
| OL | Ben Brown | 6–5 | 275 | 5.00 | Clearwater-Countryside, FL | Florida |
| OL | Cosey Coleman | 6–5 | 320 | 5.20 | Clarkston-S.W Dekalb, GA | Tennessee |
| OL | Jason Cox | 6–5 | 315 | 5.60 | Edgefield-Thurmond, SC | South Carolina |
| OL | Terrence Metcalf | 6–3 | 286 | 4.90 | Clarksdale, MS | Ole Miss |
| OL | Melvin Paige | 6–5 | 305 | 4.80 | Dillon, SC | South Carolina |
| OL | Mike Pucillo | 6–4 | 275 | 5.10 | Brandon, FL | Auburn |
| OL | Fred Weary | 6–5 | 260 | 4.95 | Montgomery-Lee, AL | Tennessee |
| DL | Muskingum Barnes | 6–2 | 245 | 4.80 | Moss Point, MS | LSU |
| DE | Jarvis Green | 6–3 | 235 | 4.60 | Donaldsonville, LA | LSU |
| DL | Sam Matthews | 6–6 | 275 | 4.87 | Jacksonville-Bolles, FL | Alabama |
| DL-OL | Tommy Moody | 6–4 | 270 | 4.70 | Seville-Taylor, FL | Florida |
| DL | Thomas Pittman | 6–4 | 265 | 4.89 | Reserve-E. St. John, LA | Auburn |
| DE | Alonzo Shuler | 6–4 | 245 | 4.60 | St. Matthew's-Calhoun Co., SC | South Carolina |
| DL | Kenny Smith | 6–5 | 290 | 5.00 | Meridian, MS | Alabama |
| DL | Gerard Warren | 6–4 | 295 | 4.80 | Raiford-Union Co., FL | Florida |
| DL | Josh Weldon | 6–4 | 260 | 4.90 | Cordelle-Crisp Co., GA | Auburn |
| LB | Alex Brown | 6–3 | 230 | 4.50 | White Springs-Hamilton Co., FL | Florida |
| LB | Travis Carroll | 6–4 | 230 | 4.60 | Jacksonville-Bolles, FL | Alabama |
| LB | Kennard Ellis | 6–2 | 225 | 4.50 | Orlando-Dr. Phillips, FL | Florida |
| LB | Jerrod Hayden | 6–1 | 215 | 4.50 | Louisville-Easter, KY | Tennessee |
| LB | Darion Hutcherson | 6–1 | 205 | 4.60 | Atlanta-Douglas, GA | South Carolina |
| LB | Marco Hutchinson | 6–2 | 215 | 4.70 | Rock Hill-Northwestern, SC | South Carolina |
| LB | DeAngelo Lloyd | 6–6 | 220 | 4.60 | Charlotte-Independence, NC | Tennessee |
| DB | Kecalf Bailey | 5–10 | 175 | 4.30 | Tuscaloosa-Central, AL | Alabama |
| DB | Maurice Fitzgerald | 5–10 | 180 | 4.50 | Nashville-Pearl Cohn, TN | Tennessee |
| FS | Deon Grant | 6–3 | 190 | 4.50 | Augusta-Josey, GA | Tennessee |
| DB-WR | Andre Lott | 6–1 | 185 | 4.50 | Memphis-Melrose, TN | Tennessee |
| DB | Marquand Manuel | 6–0 | 193 | 4.40 | Miami, FL | Florida |
| DB | Stanford Simmons | 6–3 | 195 | 4.50 | Ashland-Clay Co., AL | Auburn |
| ATH | Austin Kemp | 6–3 | 210 | 4.55 | Nashville-Brentwood Acad., TN | Tennessee |

## TOP 50 IN WESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

**By Position**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| QB | Spencer Brinton | 6–5 | 210 | 4.75 | Temecula Valley, CA | San Diego State |
| QB | David Carr | 6–3 | 195 | 4.80 | Bakersfield-Stockdale, CA | Fresno State |
| QB | Drew Miller | 6–1 | 190 | 4.70 | Tacoma-Lakes, WA | BYU |
| QB | Ken Stopka | 6–3 | 185 | 4.60 | Palatine, IL | New Mexico |
| RB | Jaron Dabney | 5–6 | 165 | 4.38 | Sealy, TX | BYU |
| RB-DB | Anthony Jones | 6–1 | 190 | 4.50 | Las Vegas-Western, NV | UNLV |
| WR-RB | Wesley Ace | 5–10 | 170 | 4.40 | Los Angeles-Westchester, CA | San Diego State |
| WR-S | Lloyd Banks | 5–7 | 180 | 4.40 | Houston-Yates, TX | SMU |
| WR | Bennie Bishop | 5–10 | 170 | 4.40 | Los Angeles-Westchester, CA | San Diego State |
| WR | Jack Brewer | 6–1 | 180 | 4.40 | Grapevine, TX | SMU |
| WR | Dallas Davis | 5–10 | 165 | 4.40 | Fort Collins, CO | Colorado State |
| WR | Robert Jarvis | 5–9 | 160 | 4.40 | Covina, CA | San Diego State |
| WR | Pete Rebstock | 5–9 | 176 | 4.40 | Englewood-Cherry Creek, CO | Colorado State |
| TE | Jose Ochoa | 6–3 | 240 | 4.80 | Sylmar, CA | Colorado State |
| TE | Brandon Stephens | 6–6 | 230 | 4.63 | Logan, UT | BYU |
| OL | Craig Brooks | 6–2 | 275 | 5.30 | Union City-Logan, CA | Colorado State |
| OL | Scott Jackson | 6–5 | 265 | 4.90 | Palos Verdes-Peninsula, CA | BYU |
| OL | Zach LaMonda | 6–3 | 282 | 4.90 | Orange-Servite, CA | San Diego State |
| OL | Anthony Mowry | 6–5 | 235 | 5.40 | Spring-Klein Oak, TX | Rice |
| OL | Ronnie Price | 6–3 | 272 | 5.00 | San Jose-Hill, CA | Utah |
| OL | Jason Scukanec | 6–3 | 300 | 5.20 | Vancouver-Mt. View, WA | BYU |
| OL | Steve Wiedower | 6–3 | 255 | 5.00 | Tulsa-Union, OK | Tulsa |
| DE | Ryan Cook | 6–3 | 225 | 4.63 | Houston-Jersey Village, TX | Tulsa |
| DL | Geoff Graue | 6–4 | 225 | 4.65 | Del Ray Beach-Atlantic, FL | Colorado State |
| DL | Ryan Gunderson | 6–4 | 250 | 5.00 | Gresham-Barlow, OR | BYU |
| DL | Jarrod Holmes | 6–3 | 250 | 4.90 | Powder Springs-Mceachern, GA | SMU |
| DL | Jason Kaufusi | 6–4 | 225 | 4.70 | Salt Lake City-East, UT | Utah |
| DE | Chad McCarty | 6–2 | 245 | 4.80 | Ft. Worth-Eastern Hills, TX | TCU |
| DL | Ryan Smith | 6–3 | 270 | 4.80 | Malvern, AR | Rice |
| DE | Fred Wright | 6–3 | 238 | 4.84 | Kountze, TX | TCU |
| LB | Jarrett Erwin | 6–2 | 220 | 4.50 | Corpus Christi-Calallen, TX | Rice |
| LB-RB | Thomas Fortune | 6–3 | 220 | 4.60 | Colorado Springs-Harrison, CO | Utah |
| LB | Zach Gano | 6–3 | 214 | 4.60 | Arlington-Lamar, TX | Tulsa |
| LB | Todd Hourigan | 6–3 | 225 | 4.70 | Valencia-Hart, CA | Utah |
| LB | Justin Johnson | 6–3 | 210 | 4.60 | Fresno, CA | Fresno State |
| LB | Nakoa McElrath | 6–3 | 195 | 4.60 | San Diego-Scripts Ranch, CA | San Diego State |
| LB | Chad McGuckin | 6–4 | 241 | 4.70 | Parker-Ponderosa, CO | Colorado State |
| LB | Corey Riley | 6–2 | 220 | 4.61 | Pascagoula, MS | SMU |
| DB | Idris Elias | 5–11 | 195 | 4.50 | Wichita-West, KS | Wyoming |
| DB | Paris Gaines | 6–1 | 205 | 4.49 | Vista, CA | Fresno State |
| DB | Edwin Garrett | 5–9 | 170 | 4.45 | Baytown-Lee, TX | New Mexico |
| CB | Marlon Guess | 5–10 | 165 | 4.50 | Ponca City, OK | Tulsa |
| DB | Thomas Howard | 6–2 | 185 | 4.50 | Fontana, CA | San Diego State |
| DB-WR | Anthony Limbrick | 6–1 | 190 | 4.45 | Oakland-Skyline, CA | Fresno State |
| SS-LB | Wes Tufaga | 6–0 | 190 | 4.70 | Honolulu-St. Louis, HI | Utah |
| ATH | David Castleton | 6–1 | 175 | 4.60 | Santa Ana-Mater Dei, CA | BYU |
| ATH | Larry Hollinquest | 6–2 | 185 | 4.46 | Houston-Sam Houston, TX | TCU |
| ATH | Isaac Kelley | 6–4 | 210 | 4.50 | American Fork, UT | BYU |
| ATH | Sean Pierce | 5–9 | 175 | 4.60 | W. Covina-South Hills, CA | San Diego State |
| ATH | Charles Tharp | 5–8 | 183 | 4.55 | Mountain View-St. Francis, CA | Hawaii |

# 1996 Conference Reviews

## ACC

### TOTAL OFFENSE

| School | Plays | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Florida State | 759 | 4499 | 5.9 | 47 | 409.0 |
| Virginia | 755 | 4230 | 5.6 | 28 | 384.5 |
| North Carolina | 829 | 4043 | 4.9 | 40 | 367.6 |
| N.C. State | 790 | 3884 | 4.9 | 27 | 353.1 |
| Clemson | 725 | 3758 | 5.2 | 27 | 341.6 |

### TOTAL DEFENSE

| School | Plays | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| North Carolina | 660 | 2482 | 3.8 | 12 | 225.6 |
| Florida State | 776 | 2524 | 3.3 | 14 | 229.5 |
| Virginia | 790 | 3251 | 4.1 | 20 | 295.5 |
| Maryland | 763 | 3520 | 4.6 | 28 | 320.0 |
| Clemson | 736 | 3779 | 5.1 | 25 | 343.6 |

### RETURNING LEADERS

#### PASSING

| Player, School | Cl. | Cmp. | Att. | Int. | Pct. | Yds. | TD | Rating Points |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dan Kendra, Florida State | Fr. | 46 | 89 | 2 | 51.69 | 665 | 9 | 143.3 |
| Chris Keldorf, North Carolina | Jr. | 201 | 338 | 5 | 59.47 | 2347 | 23 | 137.3 |
| Thad Busby, Florida State | Jr. | 134 | 244 | 12 | 54.92 | 1866 | 16 | 131.0 |
| Nealon Greene, Clemson | Jr. | 105 | 199 | 8 | 52.76 | 1380 | 8 | 116.2 |
| Joe Hamilton, Georgia Tech | Fr. | 108 | 188 | 13 | 57.45 | 1342 | 7 | 115.9 |

#### RUSHING

| Player, School | Cl. | Car. | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Raymond Priester, Clemson | Jr. | 232 | 1194 | 5.1 | 6 | 108.55 |
| Tremayne Stephens, North Carolina State | Jr. | 165 | 771 | 4.7 | 5 | 70.09 |
| C.J. Williams, Georgia Tech | Jr. | 174 | 663 | 3.8 | 7 | 66.30 |
| Letavious Wilks, Duke | Fr. | 116 | 554 | 4.8 | 2 | 50.36 |
| Charlie Rogers, Georgia Tech | So. | 115 | 551 | 4.8 | 2 | 50.09 |

#### RECEIVING

| Player, School | Cl. | Rec. | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Harvey Middleton, Georgia Tech | Jr. | 64 | 804 | 12.56 | 3 | 73.09 |
| Thabiti Davis, Wake Forest | Jr. | 60 | 792 | 13.20 | 3 | 72.00 |
| Desmond Clark, Wake Forest | So. | 61 | 782 | 12.82 | 6 | 71.09 |
| L.C. Stevens, North Carolina | So. | 44 | 771 | 17.52 | 7 | 70.09 |
| Germane Crowell, Virginia | Jr. | 33 | 687 | 68.70 | 3 | 20.82 |

## BIG EAST

### TOTAL OFFENSE

| School | Plays | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Miami | 777 | 4605 | 5.9 | 44 | 418.6 |
| Virginia Tech | 772 | 4587 | 5.9 | 46 | 417.0 |
| Syracuse | 757 | 4426 | 5.9 | 53 | 402.4 |
| Boston College | 922 | 4253 | 4.6 | 30 | 354.4 |
| West Virginia | 779 | 3629 | 4.7 | 31 | 329.5 |

### TOTAL DEFENSE

| School | Plays | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| West Virginia | 712 | 2392 | 3.4 | 17 | 217.5 |
| Syracuse | 725 | 2875 | 4.0 | 24 | 261.4 |
| Miami | 705 | 3046 | 4.3 | 25 | 276.9 |
| Virginia Tech | 769 | 3477 | 4.5 | 21 | 316.1 |
| Temple | 739 | 4359 | 5.9 | 49 | 396.3 |

### RETURNING LEADERS

#### PASSING

| Player, School | Cl. | Cmp. | Att. | Int. | Pct. | Yds. | TD | Rating Points |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ryan Clement, Miami | Jr. | 148 | 246 | 6 | 60.16 | 1983 | 18 | 147.1 |
| Donovan McNabb, Syracuse | So. | 118 | 215 | 9 | 54.88 | 1776 | 19 | 145.1 |
| Pat Bonner, Temple | So. | 27 | 56 | 3 | 48.21 | 388 | 2 | 107.5 |
| Matt Hasselbeck, Boston College | Jr. | 171 | 330 | 9 | 51.82 | 1990 | 9 | 106.0 |
| Matt Lytle, Pittsburgh | So. | 105 | 214 | 6 | 49.07 | 1249 | 8 | 104.8 |

#### RUSHING

| Player, School | Cl. | Car. | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Omari Walker, Boston College | Jr. | 261 | 1199 | 4.6 | 13 | 99.92 |
| Ken Oxendine, Virginia Tech | Jr. | 150 | 890 | 5.9 | 13 | 98.89 |
| Amos Zereoue, West Virginia | Fr. | 201 | 972 | 4.8 | 9 | 97.20 |
| Billy West, Pittsburgh | Jr. | 145 | 687 | 4.7 | 3 | 62.45 |
| Dyral McMillan, Miami (Fla.) | So. | 103 | 560 | 5.4 | 4 | 50.91 |

#### RECEIVING

| Player, School | Cl. | Rec. | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| David Saunders, West Virginia | So. | 67 | 913 | 13.63 | 4 | 83.00 |
| Jake Hoffart, Pittsburgh | Jr. | 39 | 667 | 17.10 | 5 | 60.64 |
| Anthony DiCosmo, Boston College | Fr. | 36 | 632 | 17.56 | 1 | 52.67 |
| Troy Kersey, Temple | Jr. | 28 | 543 | 19.39 | 3 | 49.36 |
| Magic Benton, Miami (Fla.) | So. | 36 | 514 | 14.28 | 4 | 46.73 |

## BIG TWELVE

### TOTAL OFFENSE

| School | Plays | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Texas | 858 | 5525 | 6.4 | 52 | 460.4 |
| Colorado | 799 | 4973 | 6.2 | 39 | 452.1 |
| Texas Tech | 845 | 4731 | 5.6 | 38 | 430.1 |
| Nebraska | 913 | 5069 | 5.6 | 59 | 422.4 |
| Texas A&M | 892 | 4854 | 5.4 | 39 | 404.5 |

### TOTAL DEFENSE

| School | Plays | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nebraska | 776 | 3065 | 3.9 | 15 | 255.4 |
| Kansas St. | 792 | 3279 | 4.1 | 19 | 298.1 |
| Colorado | 769 | 3470 | 4.5 | 20 | 315.5 |
| Texas A&M | 843 | 3944 | 4.7 | 30 | 328.7 |
| Texas Tech | 758 | 3813 | 5.0 | 23 | 346.6 |

### RETURNING LEADERS

#### PASSING

| Player, School | Cl. | Cmp. | Att. | Int. | Pct. | Yds. | TD | Rating Points |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Richard Walton, Texas | So. | 38 | 62 | 1 | 61.29 | 509 | 2 | 137.7 |
| James Brown, Texas | Jr. | 151 | 271 | 10 | 55.72 | 2115 | 16 | 133.4 |
| Scott Frost, Nebraska | Jr. | 89 | 176 | 3 | 50.57 | 1285 | 13 | 132.9 |
| Jeff Watson, Baylor | Jr. | 67 | 127 | 3 | 52.76 | 858 | 10 | 130.8 |
| Matt Johner, Kansas | Jr. | 96 | 185 | 4 | 51.89 | 1232 | 10 | 121.3 |

#### RUSHING

| Player, School | Cl. | Car. | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ricky Williams, Texas | So. | 197 | 1265 | 6.4 | 12 | 115.0 |
| DéMond Parker, Oklahoma | Fr. | 180 | 1184 | 6.6 | 10 | 107.6 |
| Ahman Green, Nebraska | So. | 155 | 917 | 5.9 | 7 | 91.7 |
| Mike Lawrence, Kansas State | Jr. | 209 | 982 | 4.7 | 10 | 89.3 |
| Herchell Troutman, Colorado | Jr. | 193 | 804 | 4.2 | 4 | 80.4 |

#### RECEIVING

| Player, School | Cl. | Rec. | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Phil Savoy, Colorado | Jr. | 43 | 652 | 15.16 | 3 | 59.3 |
| Alonzo Mayes, Oklahoma State | Jr. | 30 | 512 | 17.07 | 3 | 51.2 |
| Stephen Alexander, Oklahoma | Jr. | 22 | 438 | 19.91 | 2 | 48.7 |
| Donnie Hart, Texas Tech | So. | 21 | 457 | 21.76 | 4 | 45.7 |

## BIG TEN

### TOTAL OFFENSE

| School | Plays | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ohio State | 883 | 5285 | 6.0 | 55 | 440.4 |
| Michigan State | 918 | 4795 | 5.2 | 42 | 399.5 |
| Wisconsin | 847 | 5025 | 5.9 | 43 | 386.5 |
| Penn State | 914 | 4985 | 5.5 | 44 | 383.5 |
| Northwestern | 866 | 4590 | 5.3 | 41 | 382.5 |

### TOTAL DEFENSE

| School | Plays | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ohio State | 783 | 2952 | 3.8 | 14 | 246.0 |
| Michigan | 844 | 3557 | 4.2 | 15 | 296.4 |
| Iowa | 825 | 3697 | 4.5 | 28 | 308.1 |
| Michigan State | 796 | 3809 | 4.8 | 34 | 317.4 |
| Penn State | 951 | 4489 | 4.7 | 22 | 345.5 |

### RETURNING LEADERS

#### PASSING

| Player, School | Cl. | Cmp. | Att. | Int. | Pct. | Yds. | TD | Rating Points |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Joe Germaine, Ohio State | Jr. | 71 | 130 | 4 | 54.62 | 1062 | 13 | 150.1 |
| Stanley Jackson, Ohio State | So. | 81 | 151 | 5 | 53.64 | 1239 | 11 | 140.0 |
| Matt Sherman, Iowa | Jr. | 145 | 248 | 10 | 58.47 | 1792 | 12 | 127.1 |
| Scott Dreisbach, Michigan | So. | 149 | 269 | 9 | 55.39 | 2025 | 12 | 126.7 |
| Cory Sauter, Minnesota | Jr. | 200 | 352 | 11 | 56.82 | 2578 | 14 | 125.2 |

#### RUSHING

| Player, School | Cl. | Car. | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ron Dayne, Wisconsin | Fr. | 295 | 1863 | 6.3 | 18 | 155.25 |
| Pepe Pearson, Ohio State | Jr. | 286 | 1373 | 4.8 | 17 | 124.82 |
| Alex Smith, Indiana | Jr. | 292 | 1248 | 4.3 | 8 | 124.80 |
| Robert Holcombe, Illinois | Jr. | 260 | 1281 | 4.9 | 12 | 116.45 |
| Curtis Enis, Penn State | So. | 224 | 1210 | 5.4 | 13 | 110.00 |

#### RECEIVING

| Player, School | Cl. | Rec. | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D'Wayne Bates, Northwestern | Jr. | 65 | 1099 | 16.91 | 11 | 99.91 |
| Ryan Thelwell, Minnesota | Jr. | 54 | 1051 | 19.46 | 5 | 95.55 |
| Joe Jurevicius, Penn State | Jr. | 41 | 869 | 21.20 | 4 | 79.00 |
| Tutu Atwell, Minnesota | Jr. | 62 | 822 | 13.26 | 6 | 74.73 |
| Tai Streets, Michigan | So. | 42 | 718 | 17.10 | 2 | 65.27 |

# 1996 Conference Reviews

## PAC TEN

### TOTAL OFFENSE

| School | Plays | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Arizona St. | 874 | 5417 | 6.2 | 54 | 492.5 |
| California | 864 | 5034 | 5.8 | 43 | 457.6 |
| Oregon | 839 | 4939 | 5.9 | 47 | 449.0 |
| Washington | 828 | 4527 | 5.5 | 48 | 411.5 |
| UCLA | 824 | 4251 | 5.2 | 39 | 386.5 |

### TOTAL DEFENSE

| School | Plays | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Arizona State | 774 | 3352 | 4.3 | 24 | 304.7 |
| Washington | 715 | 3539 | 4.9 | 27 | 320.8 |
| Stanford | 817 | 3894 | 4.8 | 27 | 354.0 |
| USC | 891 | 4367 | 4.9 | 31 | 363.9 |
| Washington St. | 855 | 4004 | 4.7 | 36 | 364.0 |

### RETURNING LEADERS

#### PASSING

| Player, School | Cl. | Cmp. | Att. | Int. | Pct. | Yds. | TD | Rating Points |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Keith Smith, Arizona | Fr. | 117 | 193 | 6 | 60.62 | 1450 | 11 | 136.3 |
| Brock Huard, Washington | Fr. | 108 | 217 | 5 | 49.77 | 1678 | 13 | 129.9 |
| Ryan Leaf, Washington State | So. | 194 | 373 | 12 | 52.01 | 2811 | 21 | 127.5 |
| Chad Hutchinson, Stanford | So. | 190 | 312 | 12 | 60.90 | 2134 | 10 | 121.2 |
| Cade McNown, UCLA | So. | 176 | 336 | 16 | 52.38 | 2424 | 12 | 115.2 |

#### RUSHING

| Player, School | Cl. | Car. | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Michael Black, Washington State | Jr. | 182 | 948 | 5.2 | 8 | 94.80 |
| Skip Hicks, UCLA | Jr. | 224 | 1034 | 4.6 | 17 | 94.00 |
| Brandon Willis, California | So. | 187 | 701 | 3.7 | 5 | 63.73 |
| Lavale Woods, Southern Cal | Jr. | 119 | 601 | 5.1 | 7 | 50.08 |
| Keith Smith, Arizona | Fr. | 136 | 546 | 4.0 | 8 | 49.64 |

#### RECEIVING

| Player, School | Cl. | Rec. | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bobby Shaw, California | Jr. | 58 | 888 | 80.73 | 9 | 15.31 |
| Damon Griffin, Oregon | Jr. | 43 | 711 | 71.10 | 7 | 16.53 |
| Tony Gonzalez, California | Jr. | 44 | 699 | 63.55 | 5 | 15.89 |
| Kevin McKenzie, Washington State | Jr. | 31 | 626 | 56.91 | 2 | 20.19 |
| Jerome Pathon, Washington | Jr. | 41 | 618 | 56.18 | 7 | 15.07 |

## SOUTHEASTERN

### TOTAL OFFENSE

| School | Plays | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Florida | 854 | 6047 | 7.1 | 76 | 503.9 |
| Tennessee | 795 | 4779 | 6.0 | 52 | 434.5 |
| LSU | 738 | 4399 | 6.0 | 44 | 399.9 |
| Auburn | 785 | 4261 | 5.4 | 47 | 387.4 |
| Georgia | 772 | 4016 | 5.2 | 29 | 365.1 |

### TOTAL DEFENSE

| School | Plays | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tennessee | 708 | 2602 | 3.7 | 19 | 236.5 |
| Alabama | 711 | 3066 | 4.3 | 22 | 255.5 |
| Florida | 826 | 3373 | 4.1 | 26 | 281.1 |
| South Carolina | 706 | 3463 | 4.9 | 31 | 314.8 |
| Vanderbilt | 786 | 3499 | 4.5 | 28 | 318.1 |

### RETURNING LEADERS

#### PASSING

| Player, School | Cl. | Cmp. | Att. | Int. | Pct. | Yds. | TD | Rating Points |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Peyton Manning, Tennessee | Jr. | 243 | 380 | 12 | 63.95 | 3287 | 20 | 147.7 |
| Herb Tyler, LSU | So. | 109 | 187 | 8 | 58.29 | 1688 | 7 | 137.9 |
| Dameyune Craig, Auburn | Jr. | 169 | 310 | 10 | 54.52 | 2297 | 16 | 127.3 |
| Anthony Wright, South Carolina | So. | 131 | 244 | 6 | 53.69 | 1850 | 8 | 123.3 |
| Freddie Kitchens, Alabama | Jr. | 133 | 257 | 13 | 51.75 | 1860 | 11 | 116.6 |

#### RUSHING

| Player, School | Cl. | Car. | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Kevin Faulk, LSU | So. | 248 | 1282 | 5.2 | 13 | 116.5 |
| Dennis Riddle, Alabama | Jr. | 225 | 1037 | 4.6 | 10 | 94.3 |
| Robert Edwards, Georgia | Jr. | 184 | 800 | 4.3 | 9 | 72.7 |
| John Avery, Mississippi | Jr. | 181 | 788 | 4.4 | 5 | 71.6 |
| Derick Logan, Kentucky | Fr. | 190 | 700 | 3.7 | 5 | 63.6 |

#### RECEIVING

| Player, School | Cl. | Rec. | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Hines Ward, Georgia | Jr. | 52 | 900 | 81.82 | 4 | 17.3 |
| Anthony Eubanks, Arkansas | Jr. | 51 | 809 | 73.55 | 5 | 15.9 |
| Marcus Nash, Tennessee | Jr. | 53 | 688 | 62.55 | 3 | 13.0 |
| Tyrone Goodson, Auburn | Jr. | 36 | 643 | 58.45 | 6 | 17.9 |
| Peerless Price, Tennessee | So. | 32 | 609 | 55.36 | 3 | 19.0 |

## CONFERENCE USA

### TOTAL OFFENSE

| School | Plays | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| East Carolina | 835 | 4820 | 5.8 | 39 | 438.2 |
| Houston | 753 | 4457 | 5.9 | 43 | 405.2 |
| Cincinnati | 745 | 3551 | 4.8 | 26 | 322.8 |
| Louisville | 785 | 3468 | 4.4 | 20 | 315.3 |
| Tulane | 717 | 3184 | 4.4 | 20 | 289.5 |

### TOTAL DEFENSE

| School | Plays | Yds | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Louisville | 765 | 2594 | 3.4 | 20 | 235.8 |
| Cincinnati | 759 | 3061 | 4.0 | 25 | 278.3 |
| East Carolina | 776 | 3719 | 4.8 | 21 | 338.1 |
| Southern Miss | 774 | 3876 | 5.0 | 29 | 352.4 |
| Memphis | 792 | 3971 | 5.0 | 24 | 361.0 |

### RETURNING LEADERS

#### PASSING

| Player, School | Cl. | Cmp. | Att. | Int. | Pct. | Yds. | TD | Rating Points |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lee Roberts, Southern Miss | So. | 86 | 142 | 7 | 60.56 | 1296 | 12 | 155.3 |
| Dan Gonzalez, East Carolina | Sr. | 90 | 172 | 6 | .523 | 1322 | 7 | 123.3 |
| Chad Plummer, Cincinnati | So. | 102 | 198 | 8 | 51.52 | 1327 | 8 | 111.4 |
| Chris Redman, Louisville | Fr. | 144 | 272 | 9 | 52.94 | 1773 | 8 | 110.8 |
| Shaun King, Tulane | So. | 132 | 273 | 7 | 48.35 | 1574 | 8 | 101.3 |

#### RUSHING

| Player, School | Cl. | Car. | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Scott Harley, East Carolina | Jr. | 307 | 1745 | 5.7 | 14 | 158.6 |
| Eric Booth, Southern Miss | Jr. | 160 | 699 | 4.4 | 7 | 77.7 |
| Daryl Royal, Cincinnati | Jr. | 167 | 853 | 5.1 | 3 | 77.6 |
| Ketric Sanford, Houston | Fr. | 146 | 747 | 5.1 | 7 | 67.9 |
| Jamaican Dartez, Tulane | So. | 138 | 583 | 4.2 | 3 | 58.3 |

#### RECEIVING

| Player, School | Cl. | Rec. | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Larry Shannon, East Carolina | Sr. | 39 | 834 | 21.4 | 9 | 75.8 |
| Miguel Montano, Louisville | Jr. | 48 | 602 | 12.5 | 1 | 54.7 |
| Richie Floyd, Memphis | So. | 43 | 600 | 14.0 | 1 | 54.6 |
| Ibn Green, Louisville | Fr. | 47 | 535 | 11.4 | 5 | 48.6 |
| Sherrod Gideon, Southern Miss | Fr. | 33 | 500 | 15.2 | 1 | 45.5 |

## WAC

### TOTAL OFFENSE

| School | Plays | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wyoming | 904 | 5987 | 6.6 | 58 | 498.9 |
| BYU | 1004 | 6692 | 6.7 | 73 | 478.0 |
| San Diego St. | 813 | 5241 | 6.5 | 56 | 476.5 |
| Colorado St. | 838 | 5507 | 6.6 | 51 | 458.9 |
| Air Force | 799 | 4828 | 6.0 | 47 | 438.9 |

### TOTAL DEFENSE

| School | Plays | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| BYU | 939 | 4428 | 4.7 | 32 | 316.3 |
| UTEP | 732 | 3735 | 5.1 | 37 | 339.6 |
| Air Force | 676 | 3888 | 5.8 | 28 | 353.5 |
| Utah | 823 | 4059 | 4.9 | 33 | 369.0 |
| TCU | 744 | 4177 | 5.6 | 38 | 379.7 |

### RETURNING LEADERS

#### PASSING

| Player, School | Cl. | Cmp. | Att. | Int. | Pct. | Yds. | TD | Rating Points |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Moses Moreno, Colorado State | Jr. | 193 | 335 | 12 | 57.61 | 2921 | 18 | 141.4 |
| Dan O'Dell, San Jose State | Jr. | 49 | 94 | 2 | 52.13 | 709 | 5 | 128.8 |
| Jon Denton, UNLV | Fr. | 277 | 506 | 16 | 54.74 | 3591 | 25 | 124.3 |
| Jeff Dover, TCU | Fr. | 129 | 221 | 9 | 58.37 | 1455 | 9 | 119.0 |
| Fred Taylor, TCU | Jr. | 44 | 74 | 1 | 59.46 | 414 | 2 | 112.7 |

#### RUSHING

| Player, School | Cl. | Car. | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Damon Washington, Colorado State | So. | 162 | 1075 | 6.6 | 8 | 107.5 |
| Michael Pittman, Fresno State | Jr. | 214 | 1132 | 5.3 | 13 | 102.9 |
| Lennox Gordon, New Mexico | So. | 196 | 1008 | 5.1 | 9 | 91.6 |
| Donte Womack, SMU | Jr. | 160 | 887 | 5.5 | 5 | 80.6 |
| Reggie Williams, Tulsa | Jr. | 152 | 759 | 5.0 | 4 | 75.9 |

#### RECEIVING

| Player, School | Cl. | Rec. | Yds. | Avg. | TD | YPG |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Will Blackwell, San Diego State | Jr. | 60 | 1000 | 16.7 | 11 | 111.1 |
| Geoff Turner, Colorado State | Jr. | 52 | 921 | 17.7 | 6 | 76.8 |
| Damon Williams, UNLV | So. | 54 | 900 | 16.7 | 1 | 75.0 |
| Wes Caswell, Tulsa | Jr. | 49 | 817 | 16.7 | 5 | 74.3 |
| Carlos Baker, UNLV | So. | 71 | 887 | 12.5 | 7 | 73.9 |

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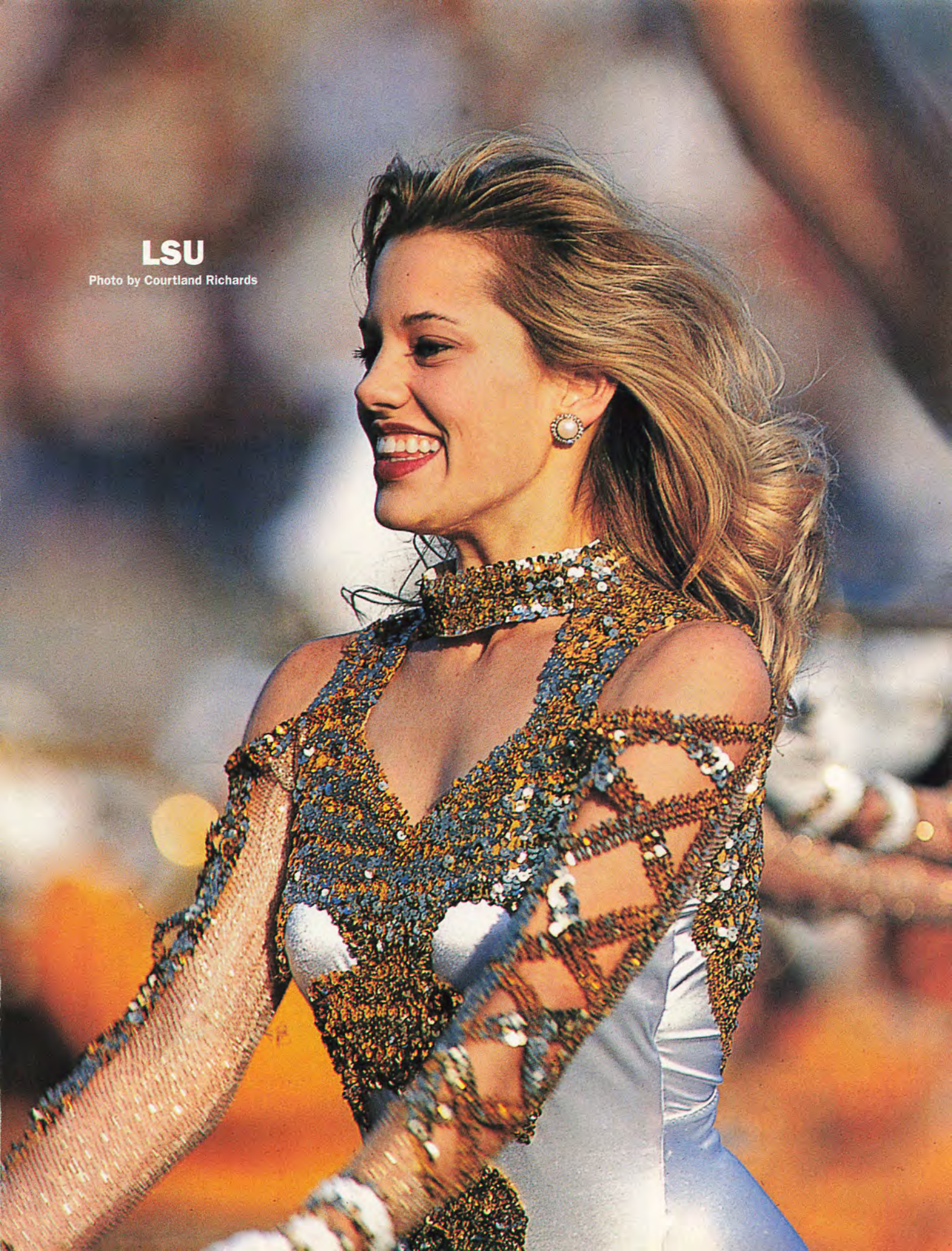

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# The Sidelines Show

## Auburn

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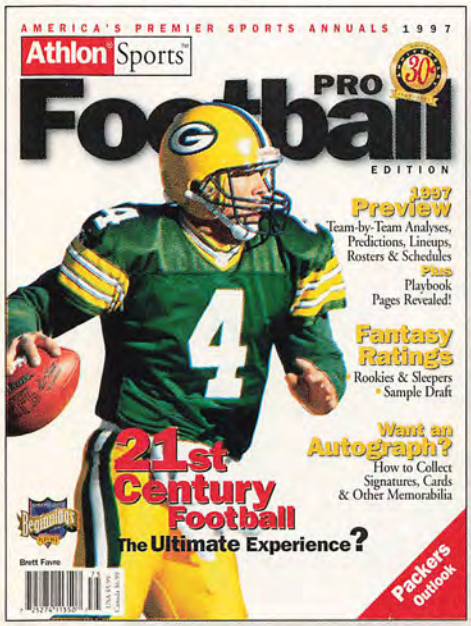


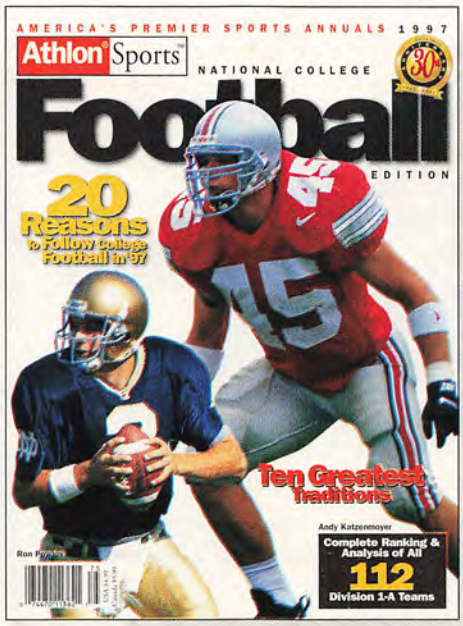


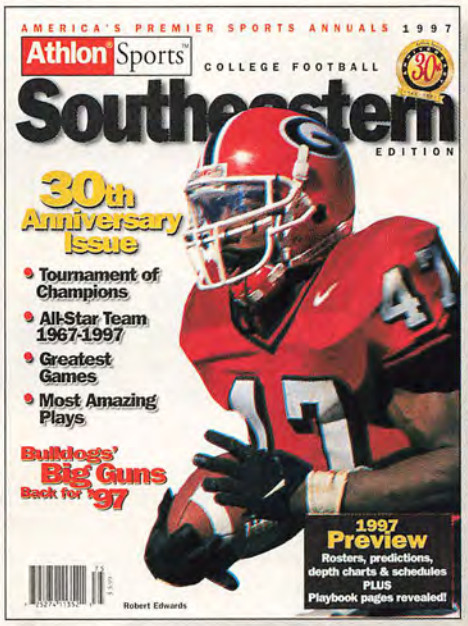


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**9-11 correct: Knowledgeable**
**6-8 correct: Well-versed**
**3-5 correct: Conversant**
**0-2 correct: Beginner**

**1** Who invented the split-T and when?

**2** What is Dean Cain's — Superman in the long-running TV show, "Lois & Clark" — other claim to fame?

**3** Ties no longer frustrate players, coaches and fans. What teams played in the highest-scoring tie game (year and score)?

**4** How did the Rules Committee, at its February meeting, ingeniously deal with an unexpected problem that arose in the first year ties were abolished?

**5** What is the modern record for most points in a four-year career?

**6** Which team lost two games yet won the national championship?

**7** What Heisman Trophy winner made the longest run from scrimmage in a bowl game?

**8** Who was the first 300-pound All-American?

**9** What coach (of what school) in Division III ranks No. 2 in victories in NCAA football, all divisions?

**10** What team suffered the worst defeat of a national championship season?

**11** Try to name two of the five teams recognized as national champions after losing season openers.

**12** Who was the only man in this century to coach two undefeated, untied, unscored on teams?

**13** What was the shortest punt return for a touchdown?

**14** Four players in the 0–0 tie between Notre Dame and Army in 1946 won Heisman Trophies. Eleven were named to the Hall of Fame. Just identify five.

**15** William Shakespeare and Henry Wadsworth Longfellow once met, but not to discuss poetry. Do you know when and where?

1. Don Faurot of Missouri, who died in 1995 at age 93, etched his coaching legacy with his invention of the split-T in 1941. 2. Princeton safety Dean Cain established the still-existing NCAA Division I-AA record for interceptions with 12 in 1987. 3. BYU and San Diego State tied 52–52 on Nov. 16, 1991 — no overtimes. 4. Desiring to protect players against injuries that might be suffered in unusually long overtime games, the Rules Committee now requires a team scoring a touchdown to attempt a two-point conversion starting in the third overtime period — no extra-point tries after the first two periods. 5. 394 by Anthony Thompson, Indiana, 1986-89. 6. Minnesota, 1960, 8–2 (8–1 in the regular season, lost in Rose Bowl); 1965 was the first year of the AP postbowl championship poll. 7. Terry Baker of Oregon State, wearing sneakers on a frozen field in Philadelphia, ran 99 yards, 2 feet to defeat Villanova 6–0 in the 1962 Liberty Bowl. 8. William "The Refrigerator" Perry, 6–3, 320, Clemson DT, 1983 (*pictured above*). 9. John Gagliardi, St. John's, Collegeville, Minn., 336–100–11. 10. Miami (11–1) lost to Florida 28–3 in 1983. 11. USC, lost 13–7 to St. Mary's, 1931; Ohio State, lost 18–14 to TCU, 1957; Alabama, lost 18–17 to Georgia, 1965; USC, lost 22–7 to Arkansas, 1974; Miami, lost 28–3 to Florida, 1983. 12. Dana X. Bible of Texas A&M in 1917 (8–0–0) and 1919 ( 10–0–0). 13. Generally believed to be 3 yards by Gene Ronzini, Marquette, vs. Drake, after catching a shanked, end-zone punt in 1931. 14. Notre Dame: Johnny Lujack, Leon Hart, George Connor, Bill Fischer, Ziggy Czarobski, Jim Martin, Emil Sitko; Army: Glenn Davis, Doc Blanchard, Joe Steffy, Barney Poole. 15. Notre Dame halfback William Shakespeare, an All-American, and Northwestern end Henry Wadsworth Longfellow met at South Bend on Nov. 9, 1935. The Wildcats won 14–7, with Longfellow catching a pass for the winning touchdown.

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